

Cannock & Rugeley CHRONICLE



Thursday, July 6, 2017

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FILLIN' GOOD – WORK TO START ON REPAIRING POTHOLE-RIDDLED ROADS



Paul Gill's picture taken at Hill Top, Huddersfield

RELIEF is on the way at last to tackle the pothole-riddled roads at Hill Top – named the worst in the region in a recent Chronicle campaign.

Signs have gone up around the Hill Top junction saying work is due to start on July 17 and warning motorists to expect delays.

Preparatory work appears to be under way, with part of the carriageways being coned off this week.

Staffordshire County Council is to carry out 'significant works in Hill Top as part of a £220,000 investment in the local area'.

A statement says: "Our team will be replacing damaged kerbs and resurfacing the

carriageway at the islands that serve Hill Street, Utzbridge Street, East Cannock Road and Stafford Lane."

Work is expected to take some four weeks.

The islands are a stone's throw from both St Joseph's Primary School and Kingsmead School, although the summer break begins around July 21 so there will be less traffic.

Access to properties and businesses along the length of the works will be available throughout, although it may be restricted at times. The Chronicle ran a campaign to highlight the most pothole-ridden roads in our region and raise the trouble spots with local councils. Hill Top at Huddersfield was

reported to us by a number of people, and pictures showed a succession of potholes around the busy islands and the approach roads.

Reader Paul Gill sent us one picture where fresh road markings had been painted over the potholes with a large dip in one line as it sank into a hole.

Nearby Five Ways Island in Heath Hayes was also flagged up as having 38 separate outstanding complaints.

The council announced last month that £1.59 million is set to be spent repairing Staffordshire's damaged roads and footpaths in the next six months.

POLICE

Amnesty as knife crime soars 50pc

KNIFE crime has soared in Staffordshire by 50 per cent in two years with police fearing teenagers are becoming increasingly brainwashed by 'gang culture'.

Young people, in particular, are carrying bladed weapons for their own safety but in actual fact it is increasing their chances of getting killed or injured, the county's force has warned.

Next week, Staffordshire Police will launch their second annual amnesty week to try and get as many knives off the streets as possible.

● Grime – Page 23

PETS

It's match point for dogs' worn-out toys

PETS at Home Cannock is to hold a tennis ball amnesty on Saturday to celebrate the first weekend of Wimbledon.

The retailer is encouraging owners and their dogs to bring their old tennis balls into the store to dispose of them.

Customers who take part are being encouraged to shout the classic umpire catchphrase 'New balls please', upon discarding their old tennis ball to receive a free, brand new one.

SERVICES

Number of attacks on firefighters falls

THE number of physical and verbal attacks on firefighters in Staffordshire dropped last year.

In 2015-16, there were a total of 10 attacks on firefighters in the country, seven of which were verbal, and three physical.

In 2016-17, this has fallen, with six verbal attacks and one physical. Bosses at Staffordshire Fire and Rescue Service will discuss the figures at a scrutiny and performance committee meeting on Tuesday.

INSIDE

GRAEME IS IN FOR THRILLER



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Forest comes alive for concerts



More than 15,000 revellers will descend on Cannock Chase this weekend for three sold-out concerts.

Elbow, Rick Astley and Sir Tom Jones are taking to the stage at Birches Valley tomorrow, Saturday and Sunday for Forest Live. The weather forecast is good for the annual event first held in 2006. Timings – Page 4

AN urgent plea has been made to make sure the doomed college campus plays a 'key role' in regenerating Cannock town centre.

The appeal came as teaching ends at the Cannock campus of South Staffordshire College and as it was revealed jobs are at risk as part of 'significant action to cut costs'. Teaching stops tomorrow (Friday) at the end of the summer term, just four years after the campus underwent a £6 million refurbishment.

Now recently re-elected Cannock Chase MP Amanda Milling has called for the site to be put to good use. She said: "It is essential that any future plans make the very most of the excellent digital facilities there, and, given its position in the heart of Cannock, the plans for the site need to be part of a wider regeneration plan for the town."

She added: "Despite the millions of pounds spent on a revamp in 2013 which meant that it was one of the best sites in the country with state-of-the-art technology, year-on-year falls in student numbers have meant that the college's board made the decision to shut the site. This is an incredibly disappointing situation."

"We need to make sure the redevelopment of the Rugeley B power station site, the Mill Green designer outlet village development and future uses of the college campus all feed into the regeneration of our towns, and that our high streets attract new investment and support successful local businesses."

Despite closing its Cannock campus

the college is still facing serious financial difficulties. It was revealed this week that staff have all been sent a letter saying that it needs to cut costs so that it can 'remain financially viable as a stand-alone college'.

This includes offering staff voluntary redundancy and voluntary reduction of hours.

College chief executive Graham Morley said: "We are taking the action to ensure there is a robust financial base to support the college to grow to respond to the needs of learners, employers and stakeholders."

"Teaching at Cannock campus finishes at the end of the teaching period of this academic year."

"After that we will maintain a staff presence throughout the summer."

"We have always had a cooperative relationship with the council and will continue to work alongside it to find the best solution for Cannock. We are keen to explore all options and multiple uses for the site."

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Funding boost towards IT equipment



Chief executive Garry Jones

AN organisation helping communities throughout the county has been boosted by a £10,000 grant funding from the Big Lottery Fund.

The award for Support Staffordshire will provide funding for new IT equipment to help support the work they do across Staffordshire, particularly around volunteering.

Each year Support Staffordshire handles more than 3,000 enquiries from people looking to volunteer in their community.

Each prospective volunteer is offered an appointment with a volunteer ad-

viser – themselves a volunteer – who will help them search online over 6,000 opportunities to find the right match.

They also support community groups and local charities and social enterprises. Much of this support work is IT-based including reviewing constitutions, registering with Companies House or the Charity Commission and completing funding searches.

Garry Jones, chief executive at Support Staffordshire said: "We are absolutely delighted to be successful in our bid to receive grant funding from the Big Lottery Fund. The new IT hard-

ware is crucial to maintaining our success story as our current hardware is old, slow and inefficient with volunteer advisers frequently complaining about systems crashing."

"By spending less time fixing IT issues our staff and volunteers will be able to offer more support sessions to a larger and wider group of people. We'd like to thank The Big Lottery Fund and the National Lottery players that create the fund that make all of this possible – thank you."

For more about Support Staffordshire go to supportstaffordshire.org.uk

'Deeply respected' town clerk dies at 53

TRIBUTES have been paid to a town clerk following his death.

Christopher Moulton, aged 53, was Lichfield's town clerk up until his sudden death last week. He fell ill on Saturday, June 25 and died on Tuesday.

He leaves behind his wife Mary, daughter Laura and both his parents. A statement issued by Lichfield City Council paid tribute to a 'deeply respected' man.

It read: "Christopher was an excellent town clerk, the heart of the city council and a deeply respected, liked and admired man.

"He had a warm, patient and approachable manner, an enviable depth of knowledge and a sharp and often very insightful sense of humour."

David Smedley, leader of the city council, added: "It has been a terrible shock for everyone. Christopher loved our city and was a pleasure to work with."

Mr Moulton began working for the city council in February 2008, initially as deputy town clerk, and became town clerk in 2015.

Councillor Mike Wilcox, the leader of Lichfield District Council, said: "He will be sadly missed."



Mr Moulton

Thoughtless dog owners facing new crackdown

IRRESPONSIBLE dog owners face tougher action if they fail to control their pets in public.

Cannock Chase Council intends to renew the existing Dog Control Orders but wants to extend its powers.

The authority has begun a consultation on the introduction of a Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) in relation to the control of dogs.

Under the Anti Social Behaviour Crime Policing Act 2014, the council proposes to renew the existing regulations in respect of dog fouling and dogs off lead.

In addition, the new PSPO will also include further measures such as requirements to dispose of dog waste properly and prohibit dogs from specified children's play areas; that dog owners have the means to clean up after their dog if they need to; and to put dogs on leads when instructed to do so by an authorised officer.

Persons who fail to comply with the provisions set out in the proposed PSPO, without reasonable excuse, will be committing an offence and could be prosecuted.

Identify

The council intends to issue fixed-penalty notices where appropriate. The fine will be £100 and failure to pay may lead to prosecution. Councillor John Preece, portfolio leader for the environment said: "PSPOs are intended to address activities carried out in public spaces which are considered to be of an anti-social nature.

"The proposed order will identify a particular public space and either prohibit specified activities or require steps to be taken to ensure our public spaces are more welcoming for the community to use.

"I would encourage the general public to have a look at the proposed order and pass this information on to any groups that might have a particular interest."

The consultation will run until August 31. Copies of the proposed Order are available for inspection from the Council's area offices and can be viewed online.

For more information call 01543 462621.

Records broken at 6th JCB Mud Run



Competitors were still smiling despite the conditions at the JCB Mud Run

A RECORD-BREAKING field of 3,000 squirmed and splashed their way to a £70,042 charity total by taking on the challenge of the 6th annual JCB Mud Run.

Competitors scrambled over more than 35 obstacles, including monkey bars and water pits, on a specially created eight-kilometre

course, doused with one million litres of water, on land near JCB's World Headquarters, in Rochester.

It means that a grand total of £300,000 has been raised for the NSPCC in Staffordshire in six years since the JCB Mud Run

started in 2012 – when it attracted 500 entrants. The proceeds from

the event support the work at Carole House, the NSPCC's service centre in Newcastle-under-Lyme which was set up after JCB and its employees completed a £2 million fundraising campaign.

JCB chairman Lord Bamford's son George took part and said afterwards: "What a fantastic day."

Family advice on pet ownership

FAMILIES are being given advice on how to care for pets responsibly at a Cannock store.

Pets At Home, at Orbital Way, is holding summer holiday workshops, covering the needs of a host of creatures, including guinea pigs, hamsters and fish.

Store manager Emma Harding said: "The free workshops are a chance for young pet lovers to learn about responsible pet ownership, while having lots of fun."

"Our expert colleagues will be able to offer tips and advice on pet care, whilst making the workshops both interactive and educational."

To find out more about My Pet Pals Summer Activity Club and book your place, visit petsathome.com/workshops

Pals on charity ride

FOUR '50-something' friends from Rugeley are training for a 308-mile charity cycle ride from London to Paris, starting on July 19. Steve Cox, Ian Leafever, Les Thirle and John Williams will raise money for three charities. Visit www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/l-thirle

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Ale festival charities announced by Camra

THE Cannock Chase branch of the Campaign for Real Ale (Camra) have chosen their adopted charities for their beer festival later this year.

They are Aoibheann's Pink Tie and The UK Sepsis Trust.

Aoibheann's Pink Tie was founded by Jimmy Norman in memory of his daughter who died from cancer in 2010 aged seven, to provide support for children and their families who are fighting the disease.

Ciara Hawkins was born and lived in the Cannock Chase area until her family relocated to Ireland in 2014.

The UK Sepsis Trust is a grassroots charity.

Richard Taylor was the popular bar manager at The Cross Keys in Hedgesford until died in July 2016 at the age of 35 from complications arising from sepsis.

He was a Camra member and a regular at the Cannock beer festivals.

Sepsis accounts for 44,000 deaths annually in the UK – more than breast cancer, bowel cancer and prostate cancer put together.

The condition is the acute bodily reaction to infection. Symptoms initially present as flu like but can rapidly deteriorate into a life-threatening condition.

The fourth Cannock Chase Beer Festival takes place at The Prince of Wales Theatre in Church Street, Cannock, on September 21, 22 and 23.

Litter louts 'are ruining our park'

LITTER louts are spoiling a picturesque park, according to a councillor.

Councillor Paul Woodhead, who represents the Hedgesford South ward, is demanding action over the issue throughout the district.

"I have noticed that littering is an ongoing and increasing problem across the district, but problems at Hedgesford Park are of particular concern for me," he said before a meeting of Cannock Chase Council yesterday (Wednesday).

"We have park rangers who are spending so much time picking up litter but this isn't what they are being paid for. We also have volunteer litter pickers across the district who are doing a great job but again it shouldn't be down to them."

Flower club date

EAST Meets West at a meeting of Cheslyn Hay & Great Wyrley Flower Club tonight (Thursday). The demonstration, by Minh NTN Lane, start at 7.30pm at the Salem, High Street, Cheslyn Hay. Entrance is £6.50.

Woman found dead after alarm raised



Kerry Cast - lived alone

A WOMAN was found dead in her home after not being seen alive for up to five days, it has been revealed.

The body of Kerry Cast was discovered by police at 2.20pm on Saturday at a flat in Herondale, Hedgesford.

Officers were alerted by two women neighbours who had grown increasingly concerned at her absence.

A statement released on behalf of her family said: "With saddened hearts we confirm the sudden passing of Kerry."

"Although we are grateful for the outpouring of love and support, we kindly request respect, dignity and privacy during

this difficult time." The 40-year-old, who lived alone, had been at the one-bedroom ground-floor flat for three months.

Police have carried out a detailed forensic examination of the property.

Inquiries

Other officers carried out house-to-house inquiries in the area as they tried to unravel the mystery of her death.

The address was taped off and the window blinds were pulled down.

A police officer was parked in a car outside as inquiries continued.

One neighbour said: "She had not been

here long, and so not many of us knew her well.

"I only saw her a few times and never had a conversation with the woman."

"Even so, it is a great shock to see her come to such a sad end."

The death is currently being treated as unexplained and a post mortem examination will take place within the next few days in an attempt to find the exact cause.

Meanwhile, her family are being supported by specially trained officers.

Police have asked for anyone with information to contact them on 101 or Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Children's market is to be repeated

PENKRDGE Market has announced that after the success of its first ever children's market in April, it will be holding another one on October 1.

The new event, which was entirely dedicated to children, consisted of stallholders selling everything from nearly new clothes and equipment, to toys and handmade crafts, as well as staging fun activities for youngsters.

Market manager Matt Williams said: "We are looking into increasing the amount of entertainment on site, so that the children are kept busy. There will still be a petting farm, rides and children's crafts, with hopefully a bigger fair and possibly a land train."

Advice for traders over tobacco laws

STAFFORDSHIRE traders have been supported in adapting to the latest tobacco sales legislation by the county's trading standards team.

It marks the 10th anniversary of the introduction of the ban on smoking in enclosed public spaces.

The legal age to buy tobacco was also raised from 16 to 18 in 2007.

In 2012 the public display ban on tobacco products was brought in for large stores and supermarkets and extended to shops of all sizes in 2014.

Last year plain packaging for tobacco was introduced.

Sessions to help teach badminton

PENKRDGE Leisure Centre has 'badminton mash-up' sessions starting on July 17, from 8 to 9pm.

A qualified coach will be on hand to offer help and advice. The sessions cost £3 per person.

Organisers say the sessions are an ideal opportunity for people wanting to play a casual game or for those new to badminton wanting help to get started.

To book, call the centre on 01785 714152, call in at the centre in Cannock Road or email Penkridge@stffs.gov.uk

Campaign focuses on private foster care

CARERS from across Staffordshire who privately foster children are being reminded that help is at hand as part of a national campaign.

Private Fostering Week, running from July 3 to 10, is highlighting the importance of notifying the council about private fostering arrangements.

Private fostering describes an arrangement when someone, who is not a close relative, cares for another person's child for 28 days or more. Call 0800 1313126 for further information.

Anglers without licences fined a total of £6,000

NINE anglers have been fined a total of more than £6,000 for fishing offences.

Magistrates at North Staffordshire Justice Centre issued combined fines of £6,217 to the anglers for fishing offences.

To date, the court has issued fines totalling more than £17,000 for angling offences.

The court heard how the nine anglers were caught fishing illegally over the past nine months. Most of those who were fined at the court last week were caught fishing illegally in February. All nine were caught fishing without a rod licence by Environment Agency officers out on regular patrols.

Six anglers pleaded guilty, and three failed to appear in court but were proved guilty in their absence. The lowest total fine was £457 and the highest was £942 – over 30 times more than an annual £30 licence.

Those found guilty under the Salmon and Freshwater Fisheries Act 1975 were James Morrison of The Chartway, Walsall; Connah Reynolds of Brierley Park, Buxworth; Ben Brammer of Handley Street, Stoke on Trent;

Failing

Ben Gee of Villa Close, Biddulph; Julian May of Wolseley Street, Birmingham; Ryan Scarisbrick of Richmond Street, Burton upon Trent; Matthew Bains of Hillside Drive, Leek; Leslie Keeley of Hawthorne Grove, Wallasey; Craig Hall of Orchard Close, Willenhall. Craig Hall was also summoned to court for failing to state his name to a water bailiff when requested.

Environment Agency enforcement officers found the anglers fishing without a rod licence at pools near Stoke, Stafford, Burntwood, Leek and Wolverhampton, and on the River Trent at Burton.

Andrew Eardley of the Environment Agency said afterwards: "I can't understand why a minority of anglers continue to risk prosecution for fishing without a licence."

"A licence costs just £30 and now lasts for 12 months from the day you buy it."

"Fishing licence money is invested into England's fisheries and rivers – improving the sport of angling."



Carol Haddaway, of Rose Arch Florist, which has launched at High Green Court in Cannock

Precinct blooms with new business

A SHOPPING precint in Cannock has welcomed a colourful new addition.

Rose Arch Florist, which offers floral and silk arrangements for any occasion, is at 1 High Green Court, Newhall Street.

Owner Carol Haddaway has worked in the floristry industry for the last 20 years, providing a bespoke floral design service for customers across the county.

She said: "I have always had a passion for floristry, and the business has gone from strength to strength over the past few years. Opening the store in High Green Court is a really exciting opportunity for the business."

Neil Edginton of High Green Court said: "This is great news for High Green Court – the florist fits right in alongside our collection of independent shops, cafes and bars."

"We are proud to support independent businesses."

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Hate crimes in fall since referendum

HATE crimes based on race or religion in the West Midlands have dropped by 13 per cent since the EU referendum in June last year.

From July 2015 to May last year, there were 3,306 hate crimes. Then, in the same nine-month period from July last year to May this year there were 2,879 of the crimes.

In October last year, Wolverhampton Council supported National Hate Crime Awareness Week.

Council leader, Roger Lawrence, made a public statement on the issue. He said: "Wolverhampton is proud to be a city that respects and values diversity."

Hundreds of tower blocks are checked

FIRE investigators are testing cladding on more than 400 high-rise blocks across the West Midlands in the wake of the Grenfell Tower disaster.

They are looking for a specific type of aluminium cladding as part of ramped up efforts to look into safety around high-rise buildings.

West Midlands Fire Service chief fire officer Phil Loach said there are 'no new significant fire safety issues' regarding high-rises in the West Midlands.

There are no tower blocks in the Black Country fitted with flammable cladding, council bosses confirmed.

Book about war leaders praised

A UNIVERSITY of Birmingham graduate has won praise for his book, which has been released during the centenary year of the Battle of Arras.

Dr Trevor Harvey's work, An Army of Brigadiers, British Brigade Commanders at the Battle of Arras 1917 has been praised for offering 'unique and original insights on British operations on the Western Front'.

Dr Harvey, who grew up in Great Barr, was educated at West Bromwich Grammar School.

Company founder Roy dies aged 83

A COMPANY founder who ran his own engineering business in Wolverhampton for more than half a century has died at 83. Roy Humphries, of Monmore Green, started the business from a unit in Coven. It now employs around a dozen people.

The family firm, R. Humphries Engineering Company Ltd, now based in Sharrocks Street, is run by the next two generations. His funeral will take place today, Thursday, at Bushbury Crematorium.

Youngsters to focus on site's wildlife

THE National Memorial Arboretum has created new ways in which young people can engage with nature across its 150-acre site.

Home to a 'tremendous' collection of flora and fauna, in addition to more than 330 memorials, the Arboretum is relaunching its Wildlife Watch Group and a new workshop programme.

The aim is to help young people engage and learn more about the crea-

tures that roam the landscape, and their habitats.

Sessions run by the Wildlife Watch Group offer the opportunity for parents and their children to learn about the natural environment.

Weather permitting, most of them take place outdoors and are interactive. Last month, the Wildlife Watch Group went pond dipping, to discover the vast array of creatures lurking in

the various watering holes around the Arboretum.

Confirmed sessions and themes for the remainder of 2017 are: July 15, Bees and Insects; August 19, Bird Watching; September 16, Seed Bombs (Pollination and Germination); October 14, Searching for Spiders; November 18, Animal Tracks and Signs; December 16, Make your own Wormery. The sessions, organ-

ised in partnership with Staffordshire Wildlife Trust, run from 10.30am to 12.30pm.

Meanwhile, Wildlife Photography Workshops will be held on July 23 when younger visitors will focus on aspects of macro photography – the capturing of close-ups of smaller subjects. There will be two identical sessions run on the day, and booking will be required to secure a place.

MP: We must deliver on decision to leave the EU

CANNOCK Chase MP Amanda Milling has welcomed the legislation outlined in the Queen's Speech which will see the UK leave the EU.

Speaking in the Commons, she praised the proposed Bills which will pave the way for the UK to formally leave the European Union – a move reflecting the wishes of Cannock Chase voters.

In the referendum held in June last year, 69 per cent of voters in the district voted to leave the EU.

Ms Milling has given her support to the proposed legislation that will be brought forward to deliver on the referendum result, insisting that the Government must get the best possible Brexit deal.

She said: "Like the majority of my constituents, I support the Government's plans to deliver on the referendum result."

"The voters of Cannock Chase were clear in the referendum – they want to leave the EU – and we must deliver on this decision."

"At the same time, we also need to get the best possible Brexit deal and ensure that there is a smooth transition out of the EU. It is essential to provide businesses and investors the stability they need to ensure our economy continues to prosper and thrive in a new trading environment."

Ms Milling says she has spoken to 'numerous' local businesses about Brexit, including the opportunities and obstacles facing them, and will be raising these issues in Parliament to ensure the Government is aware of the views of local businesses.

Forest to come alive with top music acts

By Diane Davies

AN Eighties pop sensation, indie rock favourites and a true legend of the music scene – the Forest Live concerts will cater for everyone this weekend.

More than 15,000 people will be heading to Cannock Chase for the three concerts tomorrow (Friday), Saturday and Sunday, which are all sold out.

The Staffordshire shows are part of a UK-wide summer concert series promoted by the Forestry Commission.

Rick Astley was the first artist to be announced for this year's event on the Chase. His appearance comes hot on the heels of his spring 2017 tour dates as he celebrates 30 years in the music business since his first number one hit.

Applauded

Astley was 21 when he unleashed the iconic single 'Never Gonna Give You Up', which became the UK's biggest selling single of the year, going on to top the charts in 16 countries. He recently had his first number one album in 29 years with his release called 50.

Elbow's rise over the past two decades has seen them become one of the most applauded bands in contemporary British music. They released a seventh studio album, Little Fictions, in February. The album was the band's first as a four-piece, following the departure of Richard Jupp.

After performing at the Chase tomorrow night they will be supporting The Killers in London's Hyde Park on Saturday.

Sir Tom Jones, who recently appeared as a judge on TV talent show The Voice, is touring the UK and Europe this summer with his band and support from Into the Ark.

The international star went down a storm at the V Festival two years ago



Sir Tom Jones – sold out in a day



Rick Astley – first artist announced



Guy Garvey of Friday headliners Elbow

and Lichfield's Beacon Park last year. He has had a remarkable career spanning five decades with such timeless hits as It's Not Unusual, Delilah and Help Yourself.

Each night the car parks open at 5pm and the arena gates at 6pm. Show times are provisional but tomorrow, support act Steve Mason is due to be on stage shortly after 7.30pm with Elbow at 8.45pm. The concert will finish at 10.45pm.

On Saturday, singer-songwriter Rumer is expected on stage at 7.50pm followed by Rick Astley at 9pm. The show is due to finish at 10.40pm.

Sir Tom is lined up to appear at 8.50pm on Sunday, after Into the Ark which hit the stage at 7.50pm, and the show is due to finish at 10.40pm.

Tickets for Sir Tom's show were all snapped up in just one day.

Contractors are now on site to erect

the huge stage and create a live music arena in the pine tree-surrounded field. There is extensive parking provided on the site and a variety of catering outlets will also be set out.

The annual event has become a hit with families as chairs, rugs and picnics are allowed and the layout of the grass 'bowl' offers a decent view for all. As in previous years, an umbrella ban is in place, although the forecast for the weekend is currently looking dry. However, there may be some light cloud.

The Chase event is part of a UK-wide summer concert series promoted by the Forestry Commission.

Income generated from ticket sales is spent on protecting, improving and expanding England's forests and woodlands and increasing their value to people and wildlife. Across the weekend a range of both alcoholic and

soft drinks, and hot and cold snacks will be available from the catering units inside the arena for those who don't want to take a picnic.

Organisers say the event will continue in all but very extreme weather.

Under-16s must be accompanied by an adult.

Last year's three concerts were also sold out and saw James Bay kick off the weekend on the Friday followed by Paul Heaton and Jacqui Abbott on the Saturday.

Leeds rockers The Kaiser Chiefs brought the event to an explosive finale on the Sunday.

Their frontman Ricky Wilson said "As a band we've always loved to play outdoors, we've done fields, parks, farms, rooftops, beaches and back gardens, but this is the first time we've played in a forest!"

● The Ticket – Page 25

'Thank you' from outgoing head

OUTGOING headteacher Ian Bryant has bid a sad farewell to the 'wonderful' Kingsmead School and told of his many happy years there.

He is moving on from the Hednesford school at the end of term to take up the headship of Aldridge School.

"I would like to thank everyone for their kind words regarding my role as headteacher," he said.

"I have enjoyed eleven and a half happy years at Kingsmead.

"I wish all our students and their families a safe and restful summer break," Mr Bryant added.

Mr Bryant, who was previously deputy headteacher at the Kings Avenue secondary, will be replaced by Maria Mincher, vice-principal at Ormiston Forge Academy in Cradley Heath.

Mrs Mincher lives in the Cannock district so already knows the school and community well.

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Funding bid for Great War panel on Chase

A CROWDFUNDING appeal has been launched for a First World War information panel on Cannock Chase. It will be positioned outside the Great War Hut – an original structure from the Great War camp on Cannock Chase – at the Marquis Drive Visitor Centre.

The project, organised by the Friends of Cannock Chase, Staffordshire County Council, the New Zealand Government, New Zealand Defence Force and The Chase Project military research group, will commemorate the time the New Zealand Rifle Brigade (NZRB) was based on Cannock Chase during the conflict.

Last summer, having seen a New Zealand First World War Trail information panel at Messines in Belgium, Richard Pursehouse and Lee Dent of The Chase Project pursued the possibility of one for Cannock Chase.

If the crowdfunding appeal is successful, the panel will highlight the time the NZRB spent on Cannock Chase between 1917 and 1919, and will include information on the training undertaken, the terrain model of Messines, and Freda the Great Dane mascot of the NZRB.

The aim is to run the appeal for four weeks and it is hoped it will be installed for the end of September – the centenary of the arrival of New Zealand troops on the Chase. Go to www.crowdfunder.co.uk/in-the-footsteps

Experts to look at Shire Hall's future

NATIONAL experts in regenerating historic buildings have been appointed to consider the future of Stafford's Shire Hall.

The Prince's Regeneration Trust has been commissioned by Staffordshire County Council to assess possible future uses of the Grade II* listed building, the benefits and risks of different approaches and how they might be funded.

The charity, founded by the Prince of Wales, has worked on more than 90 projects in two decades.

The gallery based in Shire Hall opened for the last time on Sunday, while the multi-sensory environment room will be moved to a dedicated room at nearby Stafford Library and is due to reopen later this month.

Eight-mile ramble

CHASE Ramblers head off on a moderate eight-mile walk from Kinver on Sunday. Departure time is 9am from Hedgesford Railway Station car park, Anglesey Street. New walkers welcome. Call Paul on 01922 414158.

Drop-in session to deal with rail queries



A more reliable service is being promised

RESIDENTS living near the Chase Line are being invited to attend a drop-in event today (Thursday) to find out more about work to electrify the railway between Rugeley Trent Valley and Walsall.

London Midland says passengers will benefit from a cleaner, greener, quieter and more reliable service between Birmingham and Rugeley with more frequent services.

An increasing number of passengers use the Chase Line each year, and improvements are needed to accommodate this growth. To deliver

the £100 million-plus project, which forms part of the Railway Upgrade Plan, engineers are working on the line every night and at weekends as well as during a full closure from August 13 to 28.

Sally O'Hare, scheme project manager for Network Rail, said today's drop-in session in Cheslyn Hay was 'an opportunity to find out more and reassure people that we will be taking all possible measures to keep disruption to a minimum and reopen the railway on time'.

The project includes replacing and

realigning the track at various locations between Walsall and Rugeley Trent Valley; platform work at Cannock, Landywood and Bloxwich stations; and installation of stanchions and gantries ahead of overhead lines being installed in 2018.

Today's meeting is at the village hall in Pinfold Lane from 4pm to 7pm.

To find out more about the Chase Line project, visit www.networkrail.co.uk/chase-line-electrification-rugeley-to-walsall

Anyone who cannot make today's session can call 03457 11 41 41.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Man badly injured in collision on M6

A MAN was critically injured when he was hit by a lorry on the M6.

Motorists faced significant delays travelling southbound on the motorway following the incident in the early hours of Thursday. West Midlands Ambulance Service was called to the southbound carriageway, between junctions 16 and 15, shortly after 4.20am and sent two ambulances and a paramedic officer to the scene.

An ambulance service spokesman said: 'Crews arrived to find the patient, a man believed to be in his 20s, lying on the hard shoulder.'

'He had suffered multiple serious injuries. The man received specialist trauma care at the scene.'

'He was then transported to Royal Stoke University Hospital.'

Walkers to learn about rabbit riots

THE Haywood Warren and Rugeley rabbit riots will be recalled during a guided walk on Cannock Chase.

Organised by the Association of Friends of Cannock Chase, the three to four-mile walk is on Saturday at 2.30pm. The creation of rabbit warrens led to rioting by sheep grazers who saw the enclosures as a threat to their rights.

The meeting point is the Seven Springs car park off the A513.

Appropriate clothing and footwear should be worn. There is no charge. Call 01543 571241 or visit www.friendsofcannockchase.btck.co.uk

Hundreds more to go superfast

MORE than 1,300 further households and businesses in the county are to get access to superfast fibre broadband as a result of a £1.7 million boost to the Superfast Staffordshire roll-out.

Comberford, Hilton, Lower Stonall, Pipe Hill and Thorpe Constantine are among the places to benefit.

The funding comes from savings made earlier on in the roll-out and additional investment from BT and the Government. Superfast fibre broadband will start to go 'live' in these communities from next summer.

Homemade cakes in mini-market cafe

A CANNOCK church hosts a mini-market this weekend. It takes place on Saturday, from 9.30 to 11.15am at St Stephen's, in Bideford Way.

It will feature an array of gifts, books and jigsaws, along with a cafe serving home-made cakes. All are welcome and there is no charge.

Kristian has pupils flipping out



Olympic medallist Kristian Thomas, who lives in Wimblebury, demonstrates his gymnastics moves

OLYMPIC superstar Kristian Thomas had pupils flipping out on a series of visits to schools.

The Wolverhampton-born gymnast, who famously won a team bronze at the 2012 London Olympics, was on hand to offer advice to youngsters on how to become top athletes. The 28-year-old visited the Ormiston South Wolver-

hampton and Bilston Academy, based in Dudley Street, Bilston, on Thursday. He also visited two other schools in Smethwick.

Kristian, who now lives in Wimblebury, spoke to a hundred Year 7 pupils about athletics as part of a national mentoring programme.

The programme was part of National School Sports Week. Paul

Morris, director of sport at the academy, said: 'It was absolutely brilliant to have the children meet such an elite, local athlete.'

Kristian really got stuck in and took part in a circuit fitness test with the children, demonstrated some of his gymnastics moves and then held a question and answer session.'

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Driverless cars: But where is enjoyment?

WESTFIELD cars, one of the Black Country's best-kept secrets, has shown that the area still leads the way when it comes to cutting edge engineering and technology.

The Kingswinford-based company, best known for its 1950s-style road racers, has developed the world's first driverless sports car. And what a beautiful looking thing it is too, with its sleek, curvaceous body, wide-mouth grille and stacked double headlamps giving it all the allure of something Alfa Romeo or TVR might have produced in their heyday.

Yet there is also something that troubles me deeply about the idea of a self-driving sports car. Surely the whole point of a sports car is driver enjoyment, the intuitive sensuality of piloting the machine through country lanes, the sensation of feeling at one with the road. Why would anyone want a microchip have all the fun?

□ □ □

WHEN was the best time to live? The older generation always used to wax lyrical about the "good ol' days" usually referring to some time around the 1920s, "when you could leave your door open knowing that nobody would steal anything." Then there is the baby-boomer generation, waxing lyrical about the Summer of Love and the Swinging 60s.

They're both wrong, of course. The time when we really had things right was about some time towards the end of the 1980s. Say about 1987, when the economy was booming, we had pretty much all the technology we have today, but when there was still some sort of social fabric which seems to have disappeared over the past 30 years.

When we had video recorders, cassette players and comfortable homes and cars, but when catching burglars and shoplifters took precedence over minor speeding and parking offences, and when our town centres had shops in them.

It was also about the last time when television was worth watching. No Big Brother or X Factor, but comedies with jokes in them. Drama meant Minder, The Professionals or Bergerac. Come Dancing, minus the celebrities, was just a gentle interlude between the news and Question Time.

Oh, and yes, there was Blind Date. An excruciating low-rent dating show when an assortment of geeks and show-offs recited pre-scripted double entendres to get their 15 minutes of fame.

Why, out of all the great programmes that were made in the 1980s, did somebody think this was the one to revive?



When the Sainsbury's chain objected the shop was renamed Morrisings



Prince Harry says none of the young royals would choose to be king or queen



Jeremy Corbyn, who was seen hugging Grenfell survivors

Name change left a bitter taste for store

JEL Singh Nagra was forced to change the name of his shop in Tyneside after a legal complaint from Sainsbury's. Like a number of Sikh-owned shops, it was light-heartedly named Sainsbury's. When the supermarket chain objected, Jel renamed the shop Morrisings. Far from being annoyed, Morrisons says: "Mr Nagra and his customers obviously have good taste so we wish him well." Who comes out of this story best? Mr Nagra must be happy with his masses of free publicity. Morrisons is perceived as an organisation with a sense of humour. And Sainsbury's looks like a bunch of po-faced killjoys.

PRINCE Harry says none of the young royals would become king or queen, given the choice, but would take the throne out of their sense of duty. Maybe all he wants is a right taken for granted by every other child in the kingdom. The right to dream of being a train driver, a firefighter or a football star. The right to choose your own life.

IT is not exactly here to zero, but Theresa May's authority has been seriously depleted, not simply by her catastrophic decision to hold a snap general election, but also what was considered an inadequate, even cold, response to the Grenfell Tower disaster.

THE truth is, the Tories seemingly did all the wrong things after Grenfell, while Jeremy Corbyn, seen hugging survivors, did all the right ones.

THE Ulstermen have been bribed and the Scots

THE BEST OF PETER RHODES



have elected a clutch of Conservative MPs to Westminster. Mrs May's Tory Government: O'Strong & McStable.

RESIDENTS who prevented a traveller convoy occupying a green outside their homes in north Wales claim the cops did little to support them. One woman declared: "The police called us insightful for coming out together." Strange term to use. Maybe the officer in question actually said "insightful," meaning perceptive or wise.

GOOGLE has been fined £2.1 billion by EU regulators for "artificially and illegally promoting its own price comparison service in searches."

This allegedly "denied both its consumers real choice and rival firms the ability to compete on a level playing field." I hold no brief for Google but as a humble EU citizen with the nous to find bargains, it seems to me that Google used its own shop window to promote its own products. Just as every department store and village shop across the EU does.

THINGS you accumulate. Sorting out her jewellery (euphemism) box, Mrs Rhodes came across a small box containing Georgia's baby teeth. It is not unusual to keep your kids' little toosy-pegs. But Georgia was not our offspring. She

was the little black labrador we puppy-walked 25 years ago to prepare for her training as a guide dog. Long gone but loved for ever. And how sharp those tiny teeth were.

I HAD eye surgery this week. It was a blissful little drama, apart from the first act which involved three nurses wrestling to insert a painkilling pellet under my resisting eyelid. Next, the numbing eye drops, followed by what I believe the drug-abusing community calls seriously good **** from the anaesthetist. The op itself was not only painless but enjoyable, a dreamy 40 minutes as the eye surgeon did his stuff (which has always struck me as being like trying to pick up eels with chopsticks) and I descended into what looked like an ever-changing kaleidoscope of blue and white lights. It was like a day trip to the Sixties. I should have asked for the Sgt Pepper soundtrack.

I AM pleased, nay smug, to report that the reason the nurses struggled with the analgesic pellet is that my eyelids are unusually taut and youthful. Shame about the other bits.

DESPITE all the warnings and a £100 fine plus six points, you still see drivers using mobile phones – even while driving convertibles. But for sheer brass neck, can anyone rival the farmer's lad I spotted turning his tractor and trailer into a lane? He was driving one-handed with no hand signal, no number plate and no lights. While texting.



Bad blood until an inquiry is finally held

The biggest UK medical scandal since thalidomide is in danger of fading into the background again, eclipsed by Brexit and terrorism on the national agenda.

The tainted blood scandal saw haemophiliacs, many of them children, given blood products by the NHS in the 1970s and 80s that were contaminated with HIV and hepatitis C.

People with blood clotting disorders were given products sourced from convicts and 'skid row' donors in the United States, including drug addicts and prostitutes who were paid to donate blood.

For decades victims and their families were told that the infections that caused premature deaths and disabled many others were an unforeseeable and unfortunate consequence of treatment.

But then Andy Burnham MP, in his last speech in Parliament before leaving to become Mayor of Manchester, called for an inquiry after alleging a 'criminal cover-up on an industrial scale' in the NHS over the historic use of contaminated blood.

In a powerful speech the former Health Secretary said he had seen documents that showed victims had been used as 'guinea pigs' and subjected to 'slurs and smears' when they tried to get more information about their treatment.

Evidence has come to light that some senior medics knew that the products were harmful but continued to allow them to be used. And these products were not always being given in life-or-death operations, sometimes they were for minor procedures.

The victims and their families have long suspected a cover up and that successive Governments have dragged their feet, aware that a potential compensation bill is coming down as victims die. The victims have only received some small discretionary payments linked to personal hardships, not the major compensation that victims in several other countries have received. It seems that in the UK saving money is the top priority, rather than justice for the thousands of victims and their families. No body or organisation has ever admitted liability.

Quite rightly there has been a public inquiry into the Hillsborough disaster, in which 96 died, and it seems certain one will be held into the Grenfell Tower horror, where the death toll is likely to surpass 79. However, more than 2,000 people in the UK have died as a result of tainted blood. Thousands more have been living with poor health as a result. Surely they deserve a public inquiry too?

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Car crash blaze heroes honoured



From left, firefighters Harry West, Sam Ward, Howard Dutton, Luke Proffitt, Gavin Fox and crew manager Brian Cox, Chief Fire Officer Becci Bryant, watch manager Nick Fife, and firefighters Matt Lewis and Dan Batchelor

THREE quick-thinking drivers and a team of firefighters have been rewarded for saving a woman's life after a crash on the A5 in which her car burst into flames.

Staffordshire Fire and Rescue responded to a serious road traffic collision near Brewood in April. When the crews from Brewood and Penkridge arrived they found the driver had been pulled from her car by three passing motorists.

The men ignored the flames and smoke, wrenched the door open and managed to pull the woman from the car.

They stayed with her and comforted her until the arrival of fire crews. The three – Daniel Moffat from Huntington, David McCough and David Scott, both from Glasgow, have been recognised for their bravery alongside firefighters.

Crew manager Brian Cox, firefighters Gavin Fox, Luke Proffitt, Howard Dalton, Sam Ward and Harry West, who are based at Brewood, and watch manager Nick Fife, firefighters Matt Lewis, Steve Mason, Dan Batchelor and Garry Proctor, from Penkridge, responded to the crash.

Tributes paid to councillor



Graham Burnett

TRIBUTES have been paid to a 'reliable and honest' councillor who has died, aged 59.

Councillor Graham Burnett, who represented the Hednesford Green Heath ward for Cannock Chase Council, suffered a sudden heart attack on Thursday.

The deputy leader of the opposition Conservative group and housing shadow portfolio leader served as a councillor for seven years in total. Members of the council on both sides have paid tribute to Mr Burnett following his death.

Councillor Mike Sutherland, who worked

with Mr Burnett while he was leader of the opposition in 2012, said: "Graham was the best person to have with you in a team."

"He and I worked together when I was leader in 2012, he was my deputy and he was fantastic. A great person to be around – a man of very high integrity and a guy who has gone too early. We're all in great shock."

Meanwhile, council leader George Adamson, who represents the Hednesford Green Heath ward, said: "He was a very nice man."

"He was committed to Hednesford, and it will be a great loss to everybody. Our thoughts and prayers are with his family."



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8 Threat to Good Friday agreement



The sign damaged by the car

The Chronicle Thursday, July 6, 2017

I BELIEVE Theresa May's decision to bribe the DUP will result in further future demands in two years' time, and come to haunt her.

The buy-off is an abuse of taxpayers' money, and a threat to the Good Friday agreement. It will help to end austerity in Northern Ireland, and allow it to unfairly continue in the rest of the UK. It demonstrates how low she is prepared to stoop to hang on to her self-inflicted unpopular premiership.

The PM would have gained far more credibility and respect if she had continued with a minority government, then offered to govern by consensus for a short time until stability had returned.

PAUL WITTON
Cannock

Former soldier jailed over child sex abuse

A FORMER soldier who sexually abused a young girl has been branded a danger to children and jailed for seven years.

Keith Brady pleaded guilty at Warwick Crown Court to two charges of sexually assaulting a child and two of possessing extreme pornography.

Brady, 31, of High Street, Norton Canes, also admitted possessing prohibited ammunition – 40 Radway Green 5.56mm bullets he had kept from his time in the Army.

Prosecutor Matthew Barnes told the court that Brady, who was living in Solihull at the time of the offences, had touched a young girl intimately.

But he told her police were bad people, and not to tell anyone what he had done or the police would come. However, the girl later told her grandmother about what had happened, and the NSPCC were contacted.

Laptop

The police were informed, and Brady was arrested, but denied sexually assaulting the girl – saying such things made him feel sick.

But in what he called his ‘fishing book,’ it was found he had made a number of disturbing entries, including some website names and a list of sexual words, said Mr Barnes.

The police found more than 500 images of extreme pornography showing acts of bestiality on Brady’s laptop. They also discovered 40 rounds of ammunition the former soldier had kept from his time in the Army, added Mr Barnes.

Brady was jailed for seven years and two months, of which he will have to serve at least two-thirds, and will then only be freed before serving the whole term if the Parole Board considers it safe to do so.

He will remain on licence for the rest of that period – and for a further six years, during which time he can be recalled to prison if his behaviour gives any cause for concern.

Award for caring duo



Elaine Dunlop and Daphne Sharp, who established Monthly Alzheimer's Support Evenings and have been honoured with a British Citizen Award

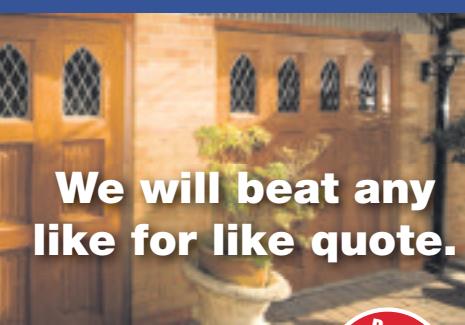
TWO women who established a support network helping hundreds of people every month have been recognised with a national honour.

Daphne Sharp, and Elaine Dunlop, both from Stafford, have been given a British Citizen Award for their services to the community.

They are among 30 medallists being honoured at a ceremony today (Thursday), at the Palace of Westminster. Daphne, aged 67,

and Elaine, 62, established Monthly Alzheimer's Support Evenings (Mase), in 2009 following the death of Daphne's 61-year-old brother, who had lived with the debilitating condition. Elaine had also lost her mother in 2007, following several years with dementia.

A Mase meeting enables carers to enjoy an evening of respite in Cannock, Haughton, Hednesford, Rugeley and Stafford each month.



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Thousands wake up to a really great day out

THERE was glorious sunshine as thousands enjoyed family fun at the annual Burntwood Wakes Festival.

The event took place at Burntwood Leisure Centre on Saturday and organisers are reporting between 4,000 to 5,000 visitors – a significant increase on last year.

People were treated to a wide range of activities and attractions, including a fun fair, circus show, emergency services demonstrations and more.

This year was the second anniversary since the Wakes returned to its original location of the leisure centre, after it had moved to Burntwood Rugby Club years ago so it could be expanded from one day to three.

Brilliant

Burntwood Wakes committee chairman and Burntwood Town Councillor Pam Stokes was delighted with the turnout. She said: "We brought it back here two years ago – it's our second year back home, as we call it."

"It's been such a big turnout, we've been trying to work out how many people have come along. Last year we had between two or three thousand at any given time but I think we're looking at between 4,000 and 5,000 this year."

"We thought the rain this week might affect the ground but the drainage is so quick here that even the rain in the morning didn't deter it. It's turned out brilliant. There hasn't been one stand-out moment but everyone was brilliant. All the charity stalls had an absolutely roaring effort."

"Everyone who I've spoken to has said it's been absolutely fantastic and it was free for the kids which is what we were aiming for." The likes of the



Tony Harper enjoys the show



The Staffordshire Corps of Drums



From left, David Dukes, Councillor Pam Stokes and Geoff Morgan

Stafford-based Staffordshire Corps of Drums and Uttoxeter Heart of Oak and Stafford Morris Dancers among others entertained the crowds, while there were also dog shows, food and drink, football games and dancers.

Tony Harper, who lives in Burntwood, said: "I've come along with my family. It's been a brilliant day and the

kids have come up from Kent which is great. We didn't used to come because it always used to rain. But the weather this year has been brilliant."

David Barker from the Uttoxeter Heart of Oak Morris Dancers, said: "We did two slots of dancing with our friends from the Stafford group. It's a good day ou."

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Getting interactive with club youngsters

The Ridwares W

THE Ridware WI held their AGM, and 2016-17 had proved to be an exciting year. President Karen Wakefield and her hard-working committee, had continued to produce and support an enjoyable and wide-ranging programme for the 54 members by providing a variety of interesting speakers and assorted activities.

The Ridwares WI continues to be involved in the local community and is an integral part of village life. Monthly coffee mornings provide a meeting place for all. Afternoon teas are held to celebrate St David's Day and St George's Day, and a vintage tea is held in June.

Raffle money raised at these events was set aside for two charities, First Responders and Talking Newspapers for the Blind.

During the past year, WI members enjoyed outings to Middleton Hall in the summer and Arley Hall at Christmas. Two successful skittles evenings were held at Hamstall Ridware. A coach load of ladies, their spouses, friends and grandchildren made the annual trip to the Birmingham Hippodrome pantomime. A lovely Christmas meal was held at Hawkesyard and in April The Ridwares celebrated their 69th birthday with a party at The Conservatory within Mabel's at Curborough.

The AGM concluded with cheese and wine. Cynthia Stock won the competition for six cheese scones.

Rotary Club of Cannock Harold Bould handing Charter certificate to Interact President Daniel Nikolov

Showing Way to garden design

Shareshill W

PRESIDENT Margaret Beddard welcomed everyone but imparted the sad news that Mollie Flavell had died. She had been an active member of the craft club - a lovely person who will be sadly missed.

way from Cossall, who has been designing and creating gardens of all sizes in Staffordshire, Shropshire and the West Midlands for 30 years gave an interesting insight into what is involved in designing and building gardens for the ordinary householder.

Margaret gave thanks for his time



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Preventing fraud is the aim of campaign

TIPS on how to avoid becoming a victim of fraud will be shared throughout July. Staffordshire County Council is taking part in Scam Awareness month which aims to give people tell-tale signs to look out for in relation to frauds on their doorstep or online.

Every week throughout July, the campaign focuses on different age groups and the types of scams they're more likely to fall victim to.

Staffordshire County Council's communities leader Gill Heath said: "We want to make people aware of the many different types of scam so people can more easily identify them."

"We would always advise that if something appears too good to be true then it usually is, but we understand many scams appear genuine. If people are in any doubt at all they should ignore the offer."

£585k funding to deliver homes across the district

CANNOCK Chase Council has secured a £585,000 investment to support the delivery of new homes across the area.

It will enable the authority to build 39 affordable homes for rent across 11 sites in the district.

Five sites are currently under way and the remaining six have obtained planning consent. The scheme is due to be completed by September 2018.

The investment, from the Unlocking Stalled Housing Sites Programme, includes private and council housing.

Private housing sites to benefit from the fund include Anglesey Real Estate which has completed a 10-unit site, Craig Watts Holdings which is working on almost 40 dwellings and Anglesey Estates Bridgtown, which is delivering five units.

The Unlocking Stalled Housing Sites Programme launched in 2016 by the Greater Birmingham and Solihull Local Enterprise Partnership (GBSLEP) and managed by Finance Birmingham, is designed to remove barriers to development. It is aiming to bring forward at least 500 homes across the region within the next three years.

Councillor Gordon Alcott, deputy council leader and economic development and planning portfolio holder said: "I am delighted that the GBSLEP have granted us this funding to help build new homes in the Cannock Chase area."

Grants available for firms to create jobs

CASH will be made available to businesses who could potentially transform under-utilised buildings across Staffordshire.

A workshop, organised by Staffordshire County Council's Rural Enterprise Programme, is being held in Hedsor informing small and medium-sized businesses how they can apply for grants of between £10,000 and £65,000. It takes place at the Aquarius Ballroom, Anglesey Street, on July 27 from 2pm.

Grants will be made available to businesses that can demonstrate they will create jobs as a result of a move to a refurbished or under-utilised building. Staffordshire County Council's communities leader Gill Heath said: "The REP is an addition to our package of support for small businesses, helping them to expand and create jobs."

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Defibrillator installed in memory of brother

A WOMAN has installed two life-saving defibrillators in memory of her loving brother who died from an undiagnosed heart condition.

Rachel Dingle, 31, from Burntwood, has been raising money for defibrillators since her brother Alex Brown, from Wolverhampton, died suddenly in April 2015.

Rachel got the first of her life-saving machines installed in Wolverhampton last year, followed by another outside a pub in Rowley Regis earlier this year.

Two more have now been installed in Aldridge, where Rachel's nephew and nieces attend school.

One has been placed outside the gates of Aldridge High School and the other outside the Co-op on Walsall Wood Road.

Help

She took part in the London to Brighton cycle ride to raise the money for the Co-op defibrillator while the funds for the one outside the school came from the Aviva community fund after Rachel was nominated by an anonymous businessman from Aldridge.

Rachel has been getting the defibrillators installed with the help of charity AED Donate, based in Stone.

Chief executive Jamie Richards said: "We are incredibly thankful to Rachel for all her hard work and fundraising. Through her fundraising in memory of her brother Alex she has already donated several defibrillators plus now the two in Aldridge."

"We also have one going into Tetsworth shortly as well."



Rachel Dingle with her nieces and nephew Emily Rose, left, Tom Rose, Olivia Rose

Ex-headteacher gives talk

A FORMER headteacher will give a talk on her time in the profession during a historical society meeting tonight (Thursday).

Gwen White, former headteacher at Chads Moor Infants, will appear in the This is Your Life slot at Chads Moor History Society. Ms White, alongside

her husband Alex, will speak about her career from 7.30pm at Chads Moor Methodist Church.

Tea and coffee will be also served.

For further information about the society call 01543 423148, email muirieldavisnut@hotmail.com or visit chadsmoorhistory.org.uk

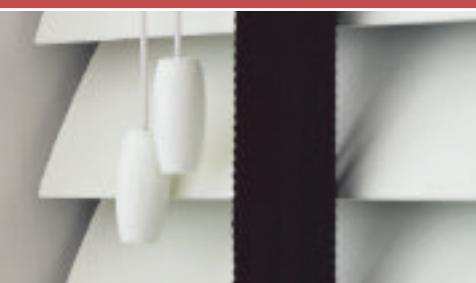
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A third of parents don't realise dental care is free for children. A survey revealed that the public is reluctant to visit the dentist due to a host of misconceptions over the cost of dental care.

Nearly half (48%) of respondents didn't realise under-19s in full-time education also receive free dental care and 34%

didn't realise pregnant women or those who have given birth in the past year are also entitled to free treatment. Despite oral health improving in children in recent decades, the number one reason for hospital admissions remains tooth decay, even though children receive free treatment.

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The majestic creatures have been seen roaming the wooded areas, taking a drink from the secluded ponds and lakes

My close encounter with majestic beasts was unforgettable

IMAGINE walking through heathland and encountering deer sauntering along a pebbled path just 10ft in front of you.

Well, that's what happened to me when I visited Chasewater Country Park, and it was a truly unforgettable experience, *writes Elizabeth Littley*.

On the evening in question two young red deer, one hind and one stag, appeared from the embankment at the side of the railway track and made their way slowly along the gravelled footpath in front of me.

The graceful hind stopped every few minutes to feed on the low growing trees, while the watchful stag followed close behind, occasionally turning to keep his eye on me.

I have spotted these majestic creatures roaming the wooded areas, taking a drink from the secluded ponds and lakes, or grazing on the low growing trees and shrubs.

Most sightings have been on Chasewater Heaths and neighbouring Norton Bog, but I have also encountered them in the wooded areas near the North Shore, by the side of the 'Wetland Walk' boardwalk, and on the grassy banks near the dam.

I have seen them on their own, in twos or threes, or in small herds. Mothers and their calves roam around in small groups, while stags are a less common sight.

Witnessed

On a sunny day last January, however, I did see three large-antlered stags sunbathing on the embankment near the dam.

They were totally unperturbed by the numerous amounts of people who were stopping to take their picture.

I've also stood on a hillside and witnessed a roaring stag guarding his harem of hinds on an area of heathland below me.

Recently the deer have been on the move and venturing further into Burntwood.

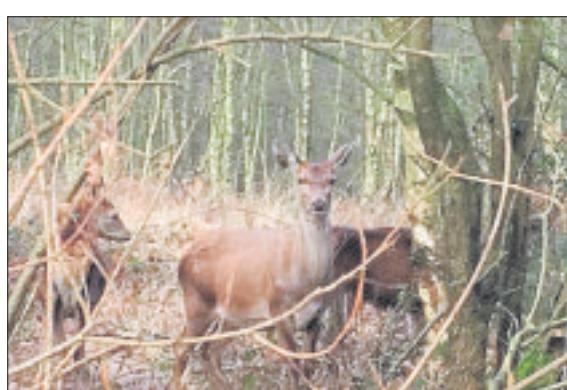
They have been spotted grazing on grass opposite a supermarket, and there have been sightings of them wandering from lawn to lawn on housing estates, over a mile from the country park.

The deer population is expanding across the UK, and Chasewater and the surrounding areas are no exception. The lack of natural and human predators, warm winters and good food supplies has helped them to thrive, especially in new environments. Chasewater and Norton Bog are good feeding grounds as the wet and dry heathlands contain established and recently planted shrubs, plants and trees. Chasewater is also a perfect habitat for these herbivores as it contains fens, woods, pools and ponds.

There have been sightings of red deer at Chasewater and the surrounding areas since the 1980s. No-one is sure where the deer originated from, although Cannock Chase, which is well-known for its deer population, is only five miles away and connected fields, paths and quiet country routes have probably led to the deer making their way into new habitats, including Chasewater. In fact, nowadays you are more likely to see deer on Chasewater than any other wild creature.



The deer have been on the move and venturing further into Burntwood



The deer population is expanding across the UK



Mothers and their calves roam around in small groups



The Crown pub in Rugeley

Soldier last man to be hanged for rape

SEVENTY TWO years ago an American soldier became the last man to be executed for rape in the UK after an attack on a pensioner. Aniceto Martinez, a prisoner being held at Flaxley Green near Rugeley, was found guilty after a court martial and hanged by the country's chief executioner Tom Pierrepont, assisted by his nephew Albert Pierrepont, who became Britain's most prolific hangman.

The 22-year-old had denied the charge but the evidence against him at his trial was overwhelming and he was convicted.

The court heard that the woman was raped in her home on August 6, 1944, after Martinez broke into the property, not far from The Crown Hotel pub, where the soldier had been drinking that night.

The woman told the court she awoke to find Martinez in her bedroom at 3.15am and asked him: "Oh master, what ever do you want? If it is money you want, I do not have any." Martinez replied: "It is not money. I want a woman." As she struggled, he hit her, and he continued to strike her every time she cried out.

Checked

Afterwards, the victim and her daughter went to Rugeley police station.

Insp Horace Brookes checked the scene and discovered both back doors had been forced. He went to Flaxley Green camp in Stilecop Field at 3pm that day to report the crime.

Martinez had been the only soldier absent at bed call. He denied the rape when questioned but his clothing was sent away for analysis to the Midland Forensic Laboratory in Gooch Street North, Birmingham.

A thorn found in his cap matched the hedge at the back of the woman's house. Blue fibres from her quilt were also found in the cap.

Martinez admitted: "I did commit misconduct with a woman but she was not forced." He claimed he did not break in.

A police surgeon at Rugeley noted bruises to the woman's neck and face, including a black eye, and she had a sprained thumb.

The soldier who carried out the midnight bed check at Flaxley Green camp travelled from France to give evidence at the trial. Martinez alleged he was asleep in the latrine at the time.

At his courts martial in Lichfield on February 25, 1945, Martinez said he had



Albert Pierrepont



HMP Shepton Mallett



A Press report on the verdict

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125 homes planned on land next to stadium

MORE than 100 homes could be built on Hednesford Town Football Club's land under plans for a sprawling new estate.

Taylor Wimpey wants to build 125 homes off Keys Park Road creating 100 construction jobs in the process. The homes would go on derelict land, owned by the club, surrounding the 6,039 capacity ground.

Bosses say they are working with the developer to ensure there is no negative impact on the club. They add it could even lead to extra parking and boost numbers through the gates.

Commercial manager Carl Cooper said: "We are currently working with the developers and the like to make sure there is no impact on the club."

"The development will actually help us as we want to be more a more inclusive and attractive club."

"The chairman is dealing with the sale of the land but it is our land. Taylor Wimpey has been in contact with us to make sure any

By Jack Averty

impact on the club is minimal and that there will be no impact on supporters."

As well as the homes the development will also increase the parking available at the club and provide a new area of green space to be used by residents.

Annabelle Harper, for the housebuilding firm, said: "Our proposals will also see us provide financial contributions to the local authority for the benefit of the local community."

"Discussions about how these contributions will be spent are ongoing."

Jo sew happy with 'in stitch' display



Volunteer Russell Booth checks out some of Jo Hill's work

A NEW exhibition featuring hand-stitched art based on the wildlife of Cannock Chase has launched.

The Cannock Chase - In Stitch Exhibition is an innovative display by Jo Hill, who is showcasing her broad range of work with 40 new pieces. Mrs Hill, from Stone, has been creating in stitch all her life, making wall hangings, cushions, lampshades and embroidered chairs.

Her contemporary work uses hand-dyed fabrics, collaged together with a variety of textile techniques, hand and machine stitching.

Mrs Hill, aged 52, said: "I've been working away for the last three months, often going over to the Chase with my sewing machine and a battery."

In Stitch by Jo Hill runs at the Museum of Cannock Chase until August 13 and is open from 11am until 5pm.

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Fare deal – take the bus for just £1

CATCHING the bus has never been cheaper for Arriva Midlands passengers with a day's fare for just a pound this week. As part of the Catch The Bus initiative, travelling on the Arriva service until Sunday (July 9) costs £1.

The nationwide campaign is now in its fifth year and aims to drive awareness of bus travel and the benefits it can offer. The event is being promoted in Staffordshire and across the Midlands, as well as in the north east, north west, Bedfordshire, Buckinghamshire, Hertfordshire, Essex, Kent and Surrey, Wales and Yorkshire.

Customers can obtain the offer by using the Arriva m-ticket app, available for iPhones and Android devices,

and purchase the ticket by entering code CTBW. By activating the m-ticket before travel, you can enjoy an all-day bus trip by presenting the m-ticket on your phone to the driver when boarding.

Rob Cheveaux, area managing director, North, at Arriva Midlands, said: "Catch The Bus Week is the perfect opportunity to make the most of the bus, and at just £1 to travel all day one of the most cost-effective."

"Using pound priced tickets has never been easier. By downloading the Arriva m-ticket app and entering a code, you can simply present it to the driver and make the most of your time on an Arriva bus."

Jobs joy as fast food chain to open at Toll

Pledging commitment



From left, Keith Stokes, Burntwood Town Council chairman's consort, Town Council chairman Pamela Stokes, chairman's lady Lesley Warfield and Lichfield District Council chairman Councillor Mark Warfield

THE annual Civic Service, for Lichfield District councillors to pledge their commitment to residents, took place at the city's St Michael's on Greenhill church.

Recently appointed council chairman, Councillor Mark Warfield, led the Act of Commitment. He invited parish, district and county councillors to acknowledge their responsi-

bility to the community and pledge their commitment to the service of the people of Lichfield District.

Councillor Warfield said: "I would like to thank St Michael's for a lovely service. I was honoured to lead my fellow councillors in the Act of Commitment, confirming the council's pledge to serve the people of Lichfield District."

A FAST food chain will open at the M6 Toll service station at Norton Canes later this year, with nearly 60 jobs being created.

The first roadside LEONs will open in the summer after the chain signed a deal with Roadchef. More are planned to open over the next five years.

Roadchef, one of the largest motorway service area operators in the UK, has picked two of its flagship sites, at Norton Canes and at Strensham South on the M5 to house the two new restaurants, which are due to open in early August.

The deal is part of Roadchef's drive to offer the travelling public a wider choice that mirrors the diversity found on the high street. The natural fast food company operates 30 service area sites in the UK, visited by around 52 million motorists every year.

Refresh

Roadchef CEO Simon Turl said: "We strive to offer our customers a range of different food options to refuel while travelling that will refresh, revive and reinvigorate them so they can continue on their journeys safely."

"We are thrilled that LEON have chosen Roadchef as the partner to introduce their brand to the motorway network."

LEON managing director John Upton added: "We're thrilled to be working with Roadchef and taking LEON onto the motorways of Britain."

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Industrial site again earmarked for homes

INDUSTRIAL land which has been blighted by anti-social behaviour will be transformed and turned into homes, under new plans.

A previous application was approved in 2013 but no development has taken place. That scheme from developer Darkhouse Properties (Jersey) Ltd was for 108 properties to replace the existing derelict former factory buildings.

The new plans have been submitted by Clive Jessup, from Cannock.

An application has been sent to Dudley Council for the overhaul of the site, off Darkhouse Lane, Coseley.

The developer hopes to turn the derelict 13-acre site near Rosewood Primary School into a new housing estate of up to 142 homes.

Council leader Patrick Harley said he welcomed the outline planning proposals, which would be a boost to the local area if they get the go-ahead. He said: "I welcome any investment in the borough as the council has been through hard times in recent years."

"We need to create our own new revenue streams and we can do that by building more houses and collecting more business rates. If

there is an opportunity for commercial properties that would be great, and homes are good as well. I think this will provide a boost to the local economy in Coseley."

The outline proposals would include a noise 'buffer' constructed to ward against noise pollution.

A design and planning statement submitted as part of the application states: "Despite the site being allocated as employment land it must be noted the site has remained vacant for some time now and is subject to anti-social behaviour problems during the evenings."

"The design of any proposed residential development must be orientated to address the site constraints highlighted."

Ambulance base to get new lease of life



Greg McKeown and Aron Fudger of St John Ambulance outside the building which is being renovated

A CHARITY will spend £80,000 renovating its base with volunteers set to move back in after years at temporary premises. St John Ambulance will spend the cash to renovate its building in Lichfield Road, Stafford.

The building had been mothballed but will now be brought back to life as a major training and meeting centre for charity volunteers from August. Volunteers are already celebrating their forthcoming return to the building after many years meeting in leased premises.

St John facilities manager Philip Walker said: "This is an exciting development for St John Ambulance in Stafford and reaffirms our commitment to the town."

"The Old Vicarage is a beautiful building that needs some TLC to bring it back into use."

"With some small but significant changes, including knocking down walls to increase the size of training rooms, we'll improve the experience for our dedicated volunteers."

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Reward of £5,000 for veteran's lost medals

A £5,000 reward has been offered by Crimestoppers over the return of a war veteran's lost medals.

The charity has put up the reward for the arrest and conviction of those involved and for the recovery of the four medals owned by 96-year-old Alfred Barlow.

The medals – a 1939-1945 Star, the France and Germany Star, the 1939-1945 War Medal and the Palestine Medal – were lost or stolen at Norton Canes service station on the M6 Toll as Mr Barlow, from Stockport, returned to the UK from Normandy.

The funds for the reward are being provided by the charity's chairman, Lord Ashcroft and follows the £1,000 offered by the actor Hugh Grant for the safe return of the medals.

Coastline

Mr Barlow was on his way home after attending the annual anniversary pilgrimage to Normandy earlier this month. He was a corporal with the 3rd Reconnaissance Corps who landed on Sword beach on the coastline of Normandy on June 6 1944, aged 24.

More than 70 years later, and whilst making his way home with the Stockport Normandy Veterans and Friends group, he noticed during a rest break at the service station on June 8 that the medals were missing.

In January this year, Alfred was awarded France's highest civil honour for bravery, the Legion d'Honneur.

Lord Ashcroft said: "After such a moving and poignant trip to Normandy, to lose or have stolen his war medals has been incredibly distressing for this brave former soldier."

"Whilst the actual value of the medals is nominal, the sentimental value



War veteran Alfred Barlow



Actor Hugh Grant offered £1,000



Alfred Barlow's medals, which were lost or stolen

is enormous. Our reward reflects the war veteran's invaluable service to our country."

Roger Critchell, Director of Operations at Crimestoppers, said: "There is every chance that someone somewhere knows what has happened to these medals.

"Please contact our charity's UK contact centre on 0800 555 111 or on-

line to pass on what you know. You will remain 100 per cent anonymous."

Anyone with information is asked to contact Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111 or through the charity's Anonymous Online Form at www.crimestoppers-uk.org.

The reward is valid for three months. Information passed directly to police or elsewhere will not qualify.



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On road to apprenticeships

A HIGHWAYS management company is joining forces with a South Staffordshire College to deliver an apprenticeship training programme.

Amye has signed an agreement for the scheme, which will be led by Collab Group of Colleges. South Staffordshire is one of 36 colleges represented by Collab Group, which will use its network to deliver ap-

prenticeship training across multiple areas including highways, engineering and rail, as well as providing team leader and management training for senior employees.

Ian Denison, Amye's group communications director, said: "We strongly believe in investing in our apprentices and employees, allowing them to gain the skills and confidence to serve them through a long career."

Sex offender fails in plea to have term cut

A 'DANGEROUS' sex offender caught out by paedophile hunters has failed to convince top judges to cut his jail term.

Richard John Craddock, 28, of Deavall Way, Heath Hayes, labelled a 'dangerous offender' by a judge, was locked up for seven years at Stafford Crown Court on January 27. He was also ordered to serve an extra six years on licence after his release.

Arguing the case at London's Appeal Court last week, lawyers for Craddock accepted he was 'dangerous' but argued his seven year jail term and six-year extended licence period were both far too long.

Dismissing the appeal Judge Martyn Zeidman said: "There was no doubt that this was a very severe sentence but we are unable to say on the facts of this particular casethat it was manifestly excessive."

Detailing the case, Judge Zeidman said Craddock, who already had a child sex crime on his record, had wanted to contact young girls. But the children he thought he was communicating with were members of an organisation seeking to expose online sex offenders. Craddock admitted attempting to meet a child following sexual grooming.

Confronted

He asked to see the naked body of 'Ellie', who said she was 13, and sent a photo of his private parts to her.

He also asked if she wanted to have sex with him and arranged to meet her in Gateshead. But, when he arrived, he was confronted by members of the group and the police were called.

Craddock also admitted two counts of attempting to cause or incite a child to engage in sexual activity. Those charges involved fake profiles of girls who told him they were aged 14 and 13.

Craddock's crimes breached a sexual offences prevention order imposed in 2013 after a conviction for sexual activity with a child.

Jon gets on bike for championship bid



Duathlete Jon Read during Wattbike sessions

A DUATHLETE has been given a helping hand to qualify for the World Championships in Canada.

Jon Read, of Lichfield, will represent Great Britain in the standard distance duathlon event in the 30-34 age group at the World Championships in Penticton, Canada next month. The duathlon is made up of a 10k run, followed by a 40k bike ride, and a 5k run to finish.

Jon has boosted in his training by instructed Wattbike sessions at the city's Friary Grange Leisure Centre. He says the indoor sessions have proved especially helpful over the winter months when icy roads are harder to train on.

Jon said: "The structured Wattbike session programme have transformed my winter training and contributed heavily to my achievements in the spring. To have a tailored workout plan which maintains performance throughout the winter ready for spring-time has been invaluable."

Phil Kelly, Friary Grange Leisure Centre Manager, said: "It's fantastic that our Wattbike classes have been so instrumental in helping Jon to qualify for the championships."

Plans sent to council

RECENT planning applications submitted to Lichfield District Council include:

Single and two storey rear extension to form kitchen, shower room and bedroom, 63 Oakdene Road, Burntwood.

Works to reduce overhanging oak tree branches in front garden at 36 Trevithick Close, Burntwood;

Sponsors home in on village fete success

A BUILDING company's sponsorship helped to make a village fete a huge success. Cameron Homes, based in Chasetown, gave a £500 donation to the annual Hill Ridware event, enabling it to be staged at Ridware Hall for the first time in around 40 years.

Roy Edwards, who lives at the hall and helped to organise the event, said they expected up to 300 visitors but were delighted to attract more than 600.

"We made more than £3,000 in profit and this will be put to good use supporting the ancient Church of St Nicholas in Mavesyn Ridware and other charities associated with the villages and fete," he said. "The day was a great success."

Thanks a million, but we'll still go to work

THEY are seen as the ultimate good luck token – so much so that friends have asked them to pick their lottery numbers.

But two couples who struck rich a year ago insisted that, despite enjoying their riches, their wins haven't changed them a bit.

One, Amanda Lewis, is still at the supermarket where she worked before becoming a millionaire. Mrs Lewis, 50, who lives in Yarlet Bank in between Stafford and Stone, has kept her job at Wolverhampton's Jack Hayward Way Asda. And her 52-year-old husband Barry is still working as a tiler.

Socialise

Mrs Lewis, originally from Wolverhampton before moving to Featherstone and then Yarlet Bank, jokes that she now has people asking her to buy their scratchcards and give them numbers to get some good luck while Mr Lewis's friends rub their lottery tickets against him in their attempt to get some good luck.

Mr Lewis, who was born in Tipton, said: "You still need to work to earn money. I like working and that's the only way you get to meet people and socialise. A lot of people will say 'I can't believe I have got a millionaire tiling my bathroom!'"

The pair were speaking at the Moat House in Acton Trussell, near Stafford, the place where they met the media for the first time last year when becoming the UK's latest lottery winners. The customer services advisor bagged £1 million in the EuroMillions Millionaire Maker prize draw.

The couple were joined by a second couple, Stuart and Denise Powell.



Lottery winners Denise and Stuart Powell and Amanda and Barry Lewis

They won the same £1m prize just six months before Amanda and Barry and astonishingly the couples only lived 200 yards apart in Featherstone.

Despite practically being neighbours, the couples had never met each other before being brought together recently by the National Lottery.

Mr Powell, 51, said, "Featherstone is quite lucky, the people behind us won £100,000 and somebody in the same street won £500,000 in the Thunder-

ball." Mr Lewis added: "It's a chance in a million really – that's happening."

Like Amanda and Barry, the Powells have also stayed in their jobs – Mrs Powell at NR Evans in Aldridge and Mr Powell at Spray Tanker Services, based just outside Brinsford.

The two couples also have another thing in common – what they did with their money. Both invested in property and treated their children and other family members.

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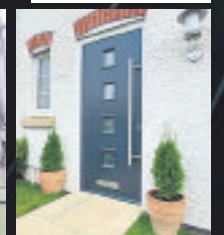
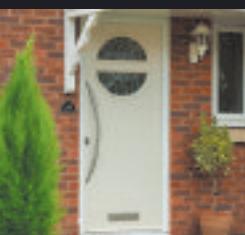
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Grime music linked to knife crime increase

VIOLENCE glorified in television, music and computer games is at the heart of an increase in knives on the streets, police chiefs say.

Knife crime in Staffordshire and the West Midlands has increased year-on-year, according to latest figures.

In Staffordshire, it has gone up from 643 incidents in 2014-15 to 967 cases in 2016-17 – a rise of 50 per cent.

And in the West Midlands, it has risen from 388 knife crimes between October and December in 2014, compared to 654 for the same period last year. It comes despite repeated knife amnesties held by both forces, including next week's second annual knife amnesty in Staffordshire.

Threat

Last year, the force's amnesty saw more than 1,100 weapons handed in and incidents reduced by 18 per cent during the period.

Speaking to the Chronicle's sister title, the Express & Star, Mark Harden, youth violence co-ordinator at the force, explained some of the factors behind the growing 'threat'.

He said: "Based on national research and professional opinion some of the reasons are in what people see and hear on a daily basis. You have only got to listen to certain forms of music, such as grime, their backing singers aren't exactly Take That."

"There seems to be this culture that it is safe and cool to carry a knife when clearly all the research says it isn't."

"It can have life-changing consequences for victims and their families."

"Listening to our young people and individuals who have carried these knives the feedback is about what



Supt Carl Ratcliffe with knives from last year's amnesty



More of the weapons that have been recovered by the police

they have listened to, seen and read. In terms of where they are getting the knives, the limited research and findings suggests many of the knives are coming from the household.

"There is evidence that some are being sold over the shop counter. The message is to shopkeepers please be responsible and keep to the over-18s policy."

"And there is also evidence that some get sold over the websites, which is a national concern."

"There has been a 16 per cent increase in knife crime in Staffordshire in the last year, but this is not just about the county – this is a national threat. Too many knives are being carried and used in crime across the country."

"Staffordshire Police has been working with partners to combat this and

the key messages are around education, awareness and enforcement.

"Our request is to people who have knives in their homes and garages to seek them out and dispose of them."

"We want to reduce knives used in our communities and reduce the victims of knife crime."

In the West Midlands a number of high-profile stabbings have made the news

The stabbing of 26-year-old James Brindley in Aldridge followed that of Tina Billingham, Kulwinder Kaur, Anne Marie James and Tracey and Pierce Wilkinson, who have all died from stab wounds this year.

And the family of Mansoor Mahmood are desperately appealing for information after he too was stabbed to death outside a takeaway in Brierley Hill last year.

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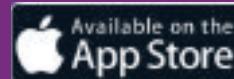
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Latest stage role is a real thriller for Graeme

FRESH from the Broadway stage, Staffordshire actor Graeme Brookes has already landed a new stage role.

Graeme, who hails from Walsall but moved to Burntwood some years ago, was starring in The Original Theatre Company's production of Invincible.

After touring the UK, it headed to New York City as part of the Brits Off Broadway festival.

The Torben Betts play, in which Graeme starred as football mad, beer drinking postman Alan, finished in New York at the weekend and now it has been revealed that he will be starring in the Frederick Knott thriller Wait Until Dark.

Drama

Lifelong Walsall FC supporter Graeme will be starring alongside Jack Ellis as Mike, Karina Jones as Susy and Oliver Mellor as Sam Henderson.

Jack Ellis is best known for starring as Jim Fenner in ITV drama Bad Girls and played regular Harry Mason in Coronation Street from 2007 to 2008.

Karina has an extensive range of theatre, TV and radio credits to her name. She has a degenerative sight condition and is visually impaired.

Meanwhile, Oliver Mellor is best known for playing the role of Dr Matt Carter in Corrie from 2010 to 2013.

Graeme said he was 'over the moon to be part of an amazing cast' in the show. The tour will begin at Devonshire Park Theatre in Eastbourne on August 24 and includes dates at Cardiff, York and Malvern.

Graeme will be heading home with the show from October 10 to 14 when the Original Theatre Company pro-



Graeme Brookes in his Invincible role



Jack Ellis - Corrie regular



Scary - the Frederick Knott thriller Wait Until Dark is set in 1960s London

duction runs at the Lichfield Garrick. Knott, best known for writing Dial M For Murder, wrote Wait until Dark in 1966. Audrey Hepburn starred as Susy in the 1967 film adaptation.

The film has been ranked as one of the top 100 scariest films of all time.

Set in 1960s London, the play follows the story of Susy, a blind woman

who, left alone in her apartment, becomes the victim of an elaborate scam hatched by a group of conmen. While in New York, Graeme did some extra research and actually went to the apartment used for the 1967 film.

Tickets at the Garrick start from £23 and can be booked at www.lichfieldgarrick.com or on 01543 412121.

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Rick: Angels really are on my side

When Rick Astley walked away from the music business at the age of 27, he imagined that would be that. The singer had sold the best part of 40 million records and his 1987 song Never Gonna Give You Up had been a number one hit single in 25 countries and won a Brit Award.

His retirement in 1993 was meant to be for real. And when he re-emerged in 2007, he imagined it would be just for laughs and a few bob here and there. The last thing he expected was hitting number one on the album chart at the age of 50.

And yet the singer has led a charmed life. He only joined his band, FBI, because the singer had left for a career as a hairdresser. And he only came to the attention of Pete Waterman because he was working as a recording studio tea boy, or so the story goes.

"I don't think anybody around me or anybody who knows me was expecting that, to have a number one album in the UK again. That was pretty freaky."

Rick went to number one last year and has been riding the crest of a wave ever since. He's played sold out shows across the UK and is back to headline Saturday's Cannock Chase gig for Forest Live, with special guest Rumer.

He wasn't particularly nervous about the release of 50. He had realistic expectations – that didn't involve getting to number one. He hoped the record would be well promoted and that people would, a) get to hear it, and, b) enjoy it.

"In a lot of ways, no, really, there wasn't any pressure. I didn't have anything to be nervous about — because, like I said, we didn't really have any expectations. I made this record myself in my own studio at home. I wrote it all, produced it, played all the instruments. It was a labour of love. It's been something I kind of wanted to do to mark my 50th birthday, which was this year, but obviously I was making the record last year. I didn't anticipate anything fantastic happening. I just kind of thought, 'Well, we'll see how we can put the record out and we'll see how it goes'."

The most remarkable aspect of 50 was its sheer quality. A spiritual record, it was deeply soulful and rich in sound. Rick was happy with that aspect of it – and thrilled that it earned him a gold disc by selling more than a quarter of a million copies.

"I think, for me, even as a small kid, I sang in choirs — at the church choir, school choir. They weren't gospel choirs, that's for sure, but the idea of singing with other people. When I was having Never Gonna Give You Up and a couple of the other hits, I wouldn't have thought that deeply about certain lyrics, I don't think, because they were pop songs — It was like, 'girl meets boy, boom', you know. Having lived a bit longer now, I think certain things that have happened in my life have definitely changed the way I feel about things."

"The song Angels On My Side is about the fact that I have two elder brothers and an older sister and

Rick headlines the Forest Live gig on Cannock Chase on Saturday



they looked out for me a lot. My mum and dad got divorced — and obviously, my mum and dad looked after me — but I'm saying having older brothers and an older sister, that could have gone one of two ways. They could have neglected the youngest kid, and I don't think they did. I think they looked after me. That's happened right through my career, as well: I've had good people around me. I've still got most of my sanity. And I've still got some money, which is a freaky thing in this industry sometimes. When people have a pop career, they kind of get churned up and thrown out the other end, and they have a disastrous life sometimes after it. And I've had a charmed, amazing life."

Rick had a testing childhood because his mum and dad lost a son before he was born and became very unhappy, before going their separate ways. That upbringing led him to music because he found his escape by singing.

"When you're around two people who are very, very unhappy, i.e. your parents, it's really tough — and that's why I got into music, I think. I wanted to be at the school choir. I wanted to be at church, even though I wasn't necessarily very religious. I just wanted to be

I've had good people around me. I've still got most of my sanity

somewhere else with people my own age and singing really helped me. One of the songs on the album is called Keep Singing, and that's kind of, again, what that is about — that singing's been good for me."

And yet Rick didn't imagine that he'd be as successful as he's been. He certainly didn't anticipate becoming a star in the USA, where Whenever You Need Somebody became a double platinum album.

"To be honest, having success in America, a couple number ones and a few top tens, you kind of think, 'It doesn't get any bigger than that'. But then again, I would look at other artists around my time — if you look at George Michael's career through the 80s and into the 90s and stuff, I mean, it's on a different league, a different level. Another British guy, obviously. So I think, to be fair, it was four or five years of being really famous. And I wouldn't swap it for anything: It was an amazing experience, you know, because I made quite a lot of money. And I'm one of those people who actually wants to say that, because the way I look at the money side of it is that it bought me freedom. I've been free to do a lot of other things that I wanted to do. Nothing maybe too extravagant, but just freedom."

● For more entertainment news and reviews see The Ticket in your Express & Star every Friday.



Watermill's Romeo And Juliet



Oh Romeo, bar-crossed lovers meet in a night club

Medieval Italy is swapped for a modern night club in Watermill Theatre's vibrant new production of Romeo And Juliet, part of the touring theatre company's short Shakespeare season at Wolverhampton Grand Theatre.

Music by rock band The Vaccines, folk-rock stars Mumford and Sons and singer-songwriter Hozier feature in Paul Hart's explosive production of Shakespeare's tale of all-consuming young love compromised by family loyalty.

Romeo And Juliet is given a contemporary feel by a cast of actor-musicians in a production that also features original music by Johnny Flynn, from TV's

Brotherhood and Lovesick. It is being performed at 2.30pm and again at 7.30 on Wednesday, July 12.

Then, on Thursday and Friday evening, July 13 and 14, Watermill will stage a 1920s-set version of Twelfth Night featuring jazz music by Duke Ellington, Django Reinhardt and Louis Armstrong.

Director Paul Hart said: "A jazz club seems the perfect setting for Twelfth Night given the play's obsession with music, love and excess."

"Featuring live music performed by our multi-talented company, the soundtrack will be 1920s influenced with a modern twist."

Tickets start from £12.50 (plus £3 booking fee), see grandtheatre.co.uk or call 01902 429212.

Grand concert to celebrate hospice



A unique concert featuring local, national and international talent will be held in Wolverhampton to mark 35 years of Compton Hospice.

Ethos – The Best of Times, produced and directed for Compton Hospice by Jeremy Hobbs, will be an emotional blend of music, song and dance highlighting the work of the city's hospice. It is being held at Wolverhampton Grand Theatre next Saturday, July 15, and the evening will culminate with the 100 Voices of the Celebration Choir, celebrating the joy of life.

Composer and concert pianist Luke Faulkner, pictured, with Aimee Fisher and Lauren Soley from the London cast of Les Misérables will be performing I Dreamed A Dream and On My Own. Tony O'Rourke, who will be remembered for his stunning performances at the Grand Theatre in La Cage Aux Folles, will be reprising his show-stopping version of I Am What I Am and Alison Room will tug at the heart strings with Time Heals Everything from Mack And Mabel. Colette Forsyth, Holly-Ann White and dancers from Wolverhampton Musical Comedy Company (Muscom) will be joined by the

Denise Robinson School of Dance and exciting young singer Annabel Rockett, national finalist in Rotary International Young Musician of the Year. Violinist Karolina Tomaszewicz will perform the haunting Schindler's List.

Members of the Compton Hospice Choir will be performing together with the 'Pure Imagination' of Nick Sullivan and the children of Newbridge Preparatory School.

Tickets from the box office in Lichfield Street, online at grandtheatre.co.uk or call 01902 429212.

Mod dream double bill at the Robin 2



It's the kind of dream gig that can only happen in the alternative universe of the tribute band, a double header of top Mod groups, The Who and the Small Faces.

Who's Who will play on the same bill as the Small Fakers at Bilton's Robin 2 venue next Saturday, July 15. Other highlights at the Robin include acclaimed duo Ezio on July 12 and a 25th anniversary of the opening of the original Robin venue with Soul Survivors featuring Mel Day, pictured, on July 14 at the 1992 door price £6.

Young dance talent in action at festival

U.Dance 2017, the UK's annual youth dance festival, is at Birmingham Hippodrome from July 14 to 16. On the Friday West Midlands-based Motionhouse share the stage with the National Youth Dance Company and groups from London, Edinburgh, Hampshire, Northampton and Brighton. Saturday sees the National Youth Dance Company of Scotland in action with groups including Birmingham's DanceXchange and Kidderminster's Ignite. Sunday's line-up includes Birmingham's ACE Youth and National Youth Dance Wales. Daily tickets are £10/£8. In the Hippodrome, The Patrick Centre hosts Navalad (New Shoots), Akademi's South Asian youth dance contest on Saturday, July 15. Tickets £5. See birminghamhippodrome.com website and onendanceuk.org for U.Dance.

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CHOICE



Tristram Hunt

Museum of the Year

(BBC2, 9.30pm)
Tristram Hunt, the newly appointed director of the Victoria and Albert Museum in London, presents coverage of Art Fund's 2017 Museum of the Year ceremony. This year, the finalists are London's Tate Modern and John Soane Museum, the Newark Heritage Centre for Horseracing and Sporting Art, Birmingham's Lapworth Museum of Geology, and the Hepworth art gallery in Wakefield. In 2016, the V&A claimed the coveted award, and here, Tristram seeks tips and advice on maintaining its lofty reputation from those responsible for running the museums up for recognition this year.

BBC1

- 6.00 Breakfast, 10.00 Saturday Kitchen Live, 11.30 Mary Berry Cooks.** (R) **12.00 BBC News; Weather, 12.15 Wimbledon 2017.** Coverage from the All England Club.
- 6.25 BBC News.**
- 6.35 Regional Programme.**
- 6.45 Pointless Celebrities.** Ed Baines, Paul Rankin, Tony Singh, Cyrus Todiwala, Jean-Christophe Novelli, Jo Pratt, Richard Burr and Frances Quinn compete in a "food and drink" themed edition of the quiz. (R)
- 7.30 Pitch Battle.** The choral music contest reaches its fourth heat, as another six diverse groups seek to demonstrate their vocal skills. This time, the ensembles are young chamber choir Tring Park 16, West Midlands-based musical theatre enthusiasts Crescendo, Oxford University a capella group Oxford Alternatives, classical quintet Vox Xover, all-girl ensemble Vocalines and publin barbershop choir The Rampions. Each group is given a chance to display their speciality with a "showstopper" performance, before battling it out with their rivals in a themed "riff-off".
- 9.00 Casualty.** Ethan discovers Scott's brother Mickey is in a secret relationship with Jez, and he seeks to befriend the lad and turn him against his sibling. However, when Mickey proves to be too terrified to help, Ethan turns to blackmail instead, earning disapproval from both Jez and Alicia. Meanwhile, Connie pulls rank on Sam when he asks for time off to take Grace to a physiotherapy session, and later, Sam spots a chance to undermine Connie while treating a bride who mysteriously collapsed at the altar.
- 9.50 BBC News; Weather; National Lottery Update.**
- 10.10 Film: Little Fockers.** (2010) A father of twins invites his family to his kids' birthday party and tries to finally prove his worth to his father-in-law. Comedy sequel, with Ben Stiller and Robert De Niro.
- 11.45 Film: Tropic Thunder.** (2008) The cast of a Vietnam War movie unknowingly waltzes into the middle of a real-life conflict. Comedy, directed by and starring Ben Stiller, with Jack Black.
- 1.30 Weather for the Week Ahead.** 1.35 BBC News.

BBC2

- 6.00 Film:** Lucky Partners. (1940) 7.35 John Mills: Talking Pictures. (R) 8.15 Film: Scott of the Antarctic. (1948)
- 10.00 Athletics: Diamond League Highlights, 11.00 Wimbledon 2017.** 12.15 Bargain Hunt. (R) **1.00 Film:** Father of the Bride. (1950) Comedy, starring Spencer Tracy and Elizabeth Taylor. 2.30 Wimbledon 2017. Sue Barker presents further live coverage on day six of the third Grand Slam tournament of the year at the All England Club, featuring the third-round matches in the singles draws.
- 8.30 Today at Wimbledon.** Clare Balding introduces highlights of the sixth day's play at the All England Club, where the men's and ladies' third-round singles matches were due to reach a conclusion. The middle Saturday is always a special occasion at SW19 and the crowd on Centre Court last year were treated to the sight of Milos Raonic and Andy Murray progressing to the fourth round with respective victories over Jack Sock and John Millman, while Novak Djokovic was dumped out of the tournament on Court One against Sam Querrey.
- 9.30 Museum of the Year.** Tristram Hunt presents coverage of Art Fund's 2017 Museum of the Year ceremony, and meets some of the people responsible for running the museums up for recognition this year.
- 10.00 Mock the Week.** Topical comedy quiz show, hosted by Dara O Briain. (R)
- 10.30 QI XL.** Bill Bailey, Jo Brand and Greg Davies join regular panellist Alan Davies and host Stephen Fry to meander through miscellaneous marriage and mating matters.
- 11.15 Film: 2001: A Space Odyssey.** (1968) Scientists detect a mysterious black monolith on the moon is transmitting a signal to Jupiter. A spacecraft is sent on a mission to investigate the origins of the strange object, but as they near their destination, the astronauts realise the computer controlling the ship is turning against them. Stanley Kubrick's sci-fi epic, with Keir Dullea.
- 1.30 Film: West.** (2014) An East German mother emigrating to West Germany is interrogated about her dead boyfriend, who is suspected of being a spy. Drama, with Jordis Triebel and Tristan Gobel.
- 3.05 This Is BBC Two.**

ITV

- 6.00 CITV: Grizzly Tales for Gruesome Kids, 6.10 Grizzly Tales for Gruesome Kids.** (R) 6.20 Sooty. (R) **6.30 Signed Stories: Share a Story,** (R) 6.35 Dino Dan: Treks Adventures. (R) 6.50 Dino Dan: Treks Adventures. (R) 7.00 Oddbods. (R) 7.05 Super 4. (R) 7.20 Marvel Avengers Assemble. (R) 7.45 Thunderbirds Are Go. (R) 8.10 Ben 10. 8.25 ITV News. 8.30 Weekend. 9.25 The Home Game. (R) 10.20 Film: Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets. (2002) 1.20 ITV News; Weather. 1.30 ITV Racing. Live from Sandown. Coverage of today's races from Sandown Park and Haydock Park. 4.00 The Chase. (R) 5.00 Paul O'Grady: For the Love of Dogs. (R) 5.30 Little Big Shots. (R)
- 6.25 Regional Programme;** Weather.
- 6.35 ITV News; Weather.**
- 6.45 Catchphrase.** Stephen Mulhern hosts the game show, asking three contestants to "see it and say it" as they try to guess the familiar phrases hidden in animated clues.
- 7.30 The Voice Kids.** The Blind Auditions are now over, meaning it is time for coaches Will.i.am, Danny Jones and Pixie Lott to begin the difficult process of whittling down the number of would-be pop icons in their respective teams. Emma Willis presents as the battle phase gets under way. This time, the youngsters are arranged into groups of three to face another daunting turn on the stage. Only one singer from each trio can make it through to the semi-final, and remain in the running to claim the £30,000 contribution to their musical education – and the family holiday to Disneyland Paris.
- 9.00 Film: Bridesmaids.** (2011) A disorganized woman is asked to be maid of honour at her best friend's wedding. Taking charge of the prenuptial bridal celebrations, she resolves to give her pal and accompanying bridesmaids the time of their lives, but as her efforts slide into chaos she finds the wife of the groom's boss is keen to usurp her position. Comedy, with Kristen Wiig, Rose Byrne and Melissa McCarthy.
- 11.20 Film: Red Eye.** (2005) A hotelier on a flight to Miami realises a passenger she has befriended is intent on involving her in a political assassination. Thriller, with Rachel McAdams and Cillian Murphy.
- 12.55 Ramsay's Hotel Hell.** A family-built inn with huge debts in Oregon. (R) 1.45 Hollyoaks. Mila helps Cindy to fake a robbery at The Emporium for the sympathy vote in the election, while Jesse takes Grace for a viewing at a potential new club. 3.50 Ackley Bridge. Kane is furious to discover that Nas is considering the arranged marriage, but the pressure of her web of lies leads Nas to break down to her mum and confess that she is gay. (R) 4.45 Shipping Wars UK. The race for Transporter of the Week reaches its climax. (R) 5.15 Location, Location, Location. (R)

CHANNEL 4

- 6.10 Motor Sport: Caterham, 6.40 3rd Rock from the Sun, 7.05 3rd Rock from the Sun.** (R) 7.30 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) 7.55 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) 8.25 Fraser. (R) 8.50 Fraser. (R) 9.20 The Big Bang Theory. (R) 9.50 The Big Bang Theory. (R) 10.20 The Big Bang Theory. (R) 11.20 The Simpsons. (R) 12.20 Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA. (R) 1.20 Four in a Bed. (R) 1.50 Four in a Bed. (R) 2.25 Four in a Bed. (R) 2.55 Four in a Bed. (R) 3.30 Four in a Bed. (R) 4.00 A Place in the Sun: Winter Sun. (R) 5.00 Channel 4 News. 5.30 Formula 1 Austrian Grand Prix Qualifying Highlights.
- 7.00 Film: Rise of the Planet of the Apes.** (2011) A scientist carries out genetic experiments on apes, hoping to find a cure for Alzheimer's disease. A chimpanzee used in the tests develops superior intelligence and becomes outraged at the human race's cruel treatment of his kind, forming his fellow primates into an army to overthrow mankind. Sci-fi thriller, starring James Franco, Freida Pinto and Andy Serkis.
- 9.00 Film: Blindsight.** (2011) A disorganized woman is asked to be maid of honour at her best friend's wedding. Taking charge of the prenuptial bridal celebrations, she resolves to give her pal and accompanying bridesmaids the time of their lives, but as her efforts slide into chaos she finds the wife of the groom's boss is keen to usurp her position. Comedy, with Kristen Wiig, Rose Byrne and Melissa McCarthy.
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CHANNEL 5

- 6.00 Milkshake!** 10.10 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles. 10.45 Cats Make You Laugh Out Loud 2. (R) 7.05 3rd Rock from the Sun. (R) 7.30 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) 7.55 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) 8.25 Fraser. (R) 8.50 Fraser. (R) 9.20 The Big Bang Theory. (R) 9.50 The Big Bang Theory. (R) 10.20 The Big Bang Theory. (R) 11.20 The Simpsons. (R) 12.20 Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA. (R) 1.20 Four in a Bed. (R) 1.50 Four in a Bed. (R) 2.25 Four in a Bed. (R) 2.55 Four in a Bed. (R) 3.30 Four in a Bed. (R) 4.00 Can't Pay? We'll Take It Away. (R) 5.00 Can't Pay? We'll Take It Away. (R) 6.00 Can't Pay? We'll Take It Away.
- The agents chase almost £3,000 owed by Indian takeaway owners, but when the staff deny any knowledge of the debt, the agents threaten to seize kitchen equipment. In east London they face a race against time to recover more than £3,000 from an electrical services company, and in Cheshire the enforcement agents chase nearly £4,000 of debt owed by a mobile phone shop. (R)
- 6.55 5 News Weekend.**
- 7.00 Cricket on 5.** England v South Africa. Highlights of the third day's play in the First Test of the four-match series, which took place at Lord's. With commentary by Graeme Smith, Geoff Boycott, Simon Hughes, Michael Vaughan and Mark Nicholas.
- 8.00 Blind Date.** Paul O'Grady gives more lovelorn singletons a chance at romance. Manchester-based recruitment consultant Antoni must choose which of three self-assured ladies he would like to date, while Alice, a Celine Dion super-fan hopes her musical obsession will stop not her finding a girlfriend on her wavelength. (R)
- 9.00 Big Brother.** Daily round-up of highlights, revealing how the housemates are getting on under the all-seeing eye of Big Brother. Featuring games, arguments, laughs, diary room visits and bedroom chit-chat, as well as reactions to the latest eviction. Narrated by Marcus Bentley.
- 10.00 Live Boxing: Josh Taylor vs Chara Davies.** Coverage of the bout for the Commonwealth Super Lightweight title, which takes place at Braehead Arena in Glasgow.
- 12.00 SuperCasino, Live interactive gaming, 3.10 Film:** The Darkest Hour. (2011) Sci-fi horror, starring Emile Hirsch. 4.40 Access. 4.50 Great Artists. Sculptor, architect and painter Michelangelo. (R) 5.15 Wildlife SOS. (R) 5.40 Angels of Jarm. (R) 5.50 Roary the Racing Car. (R)

DIGITAL

- BBC Four**
- 7.00 Britain and the Sea** 8.00 Nature's Great Events 9.00 Film: Mea Culpa (2014) 10.25 Titanic's Tragic Twin: The Britannic Disaster 11.25 Top of the Pops: 1984 12.35 Synth Britannia 3.05 Close
- ITV2**
- 12.10 Take Me Out 2.** Catchphrase 2.05 You've Been Framed! Gold 2.35 Film: A Cinderella Story (2004) 3.35 FYI Daily 4.00 Film: A Cinderella Story (2004) 4.30 Film: Charlie and the Chocolate Factory (2005) 5.35 FYI Daily 5.40 Film: Charlie and the Chocolate Factory (2005) 6.45 Film: Step Up 3 (2010) 7.50 FYI Daily 7.55 Film: Step Up 3 (2010) 9.00 Love Island: The Weekly Hot List 10.00 Celebrity Juice 10.50 Family Guy 12.20 American Dad! 1.15 Film: Bring It On (2000) 2.15 FYI Daily 2.20 Film: Bring It On (2000) 2.55 Teleshopping
- ITV3**
- 11.00 Film:** The Mirror Crack'd (1980) 12.05 Bertie and Elizabeth 2.05 Hans Christian Andersen: My Life as a Fairy Tale 4.00 Wycliffe 5.05 Agatha Christie's Marple 9.00 Foyle's War 11.00 Law & Order: UK 12.00 ITV3 Nightscreen 2.30 Teleshopping
- ITV4**
- 11.00 Tour de France Live.** Coverage of stage eight. 4.30 Pawn Stars 5.00 Better Late Than Never 5.55 Monster Car 7.00 Tour de France Highlights 8.00 The Chase: Celebrity Special 9.05 Film: Renegades (1989) 10.05 FYI Daily 10.10 Film: Renegades (1989) 11.15 Film: Awake (2007) 12.20 FYI Daily 12.25 Film: Awake (2007) 12.55 Tour de France Highlights 2.00 The Hand of God: 30 Years 10.20 ITV4 Nightscreen 3.00 Teleshopping
- E4**
- 12.00 The Goldbergs** 3.00 Film: Ferris Bueller's Day Off (1986) 5.00 The Big Bang Theory 9.00 Film: Die Hard 2 (1990) 11.25 Googleplex 1.35 The Inbetweeners 2.35 Tattoo Fixers 3.30 Rude Tube 4.25 How I Met Your Mother Film 4
- 11.00 Step Up 4:** Miami Heat (2012) 1.00 Moomins on the Riviera (2014) 2.35 Letters to Juliet (2010) 4.40 Men in Black (1997) 6.35 The Best Exotic Marigold Hotel (2011) Comedy drama, starring Judi Dench and Bill Nighy. 9.00 The Hunger Games: Mockingjay – Part 1 (2014) Sci-fi adventure sequel, starring Jennifer Lawrence. 11.20 Solomon Kane (2010) 1.25 I Love You Phillip Morris (2009) 3.35 Close

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SUNDAY'S TV JULY 9

CHOICE



Aidan Turner

Poldark (BBC1, 9pm)

The French Royalists plan an invasion, which Caroline hopes will lead to Dwight's release. However, Ross is convinced this will only make matters worse, and recruits a band of allies, including Tholly, Zacky, Drake and Henshaw, to help him free Dwight from prison. George schemes to further his political ambitions, and when he learns of Ross' plan, he uses it as a means to discredit his rival, accusing him of recklessness – a charge that may prove true when the rescue mission proves to have fatal consequences.

Aidan Turner, Eleanor Tomlinson, Caroline Blakiston, Ossie Whitworth, Ellisie Chappell, Beatie Edney and Jack Farthing star.

BBC1

- 6.00 Breakfast.** **9.00** The Andrew Marr Show. **10.00** Sunday Morning Live. **11.00** Regional Programme. **12.15** Bargain Hunt. **(R) 1.00** BBC News: Weather. **1.15** Athletics: London Anniversary Games. Gabby Logan presents continued coverage from the Olympic Stadium in London. **4.30** Escape to the Country. **(R) 5.10** Songs of Praise. **5.45** How to Holiday Better. New series. Cherry Healey and Ade Adepitan find the perfect holiday for members of the public. **6.35** BBC News.
- 6.50** Regional Programme.
- 7.00** **Countryfile.** Anita Rani visits a groundbreaking project in Northamptonshire to incorporate wildlife conservation into a retail park. John Craven visits a micro-tannery and goes in search of an elusive butterfly. Adam Henson finds out about an insect farm in Cumbria, and Tom Heap reports on homelessness in rural areas.
- 8.00** **Fake or Fortune?** Fiona Bruce and art expert Philip Mould visit a B&B in Aberdeenshire to pick up where the owner's late husband left off in proving that a painting is the work of 19th-century French artist Paul Delaroche. A visit to the British museum raises evidence that this could be a lost treasure once belonging to France's last king and queen, and they head for Normandy to inspect a stained glass window in the image of a lost Delaroche painting – but they also begin to suspect it is a copy, rather than the original. **(R)**
- 9.00** **Poldark.** Ross assumes a band of allies to free Dwight from prison. However, the rescue mission proves to have fatal consequences. George schemes to further his political ambitions. **10.00** BBC News.
- 10.20** Regional Programme.
- 10.30** **Sue Barker: Our Wimbledon.** The presenter travels the globe meeting Wimbledon greats such as Andy Murray, Roger Federer, Pete Sampras, Billie Jean King and Martina Navratilova. **(R)**
- 11.45** **The Week the Landlords Moved** In a transformative series challenging some of Britain's most successful landlords to spend an eye-opening week living in one of their own rental properties. **(R)**
- 12.45** Weather for the Week Ahead. **12.50** BBC News.

BBC2

- 6.00** Secrets of the Mona Lisa. **(R) 7.00** A to Z of TV Gardening. **7.45** The Instant Gardener. **(R) 8.30** Countryfile. **9.30** Saturday Kitchen Best Bites. **11.00** Nigel Slater: Eating Together. **(R) 11.30** Hairy Bikers: Best of British. **12.15** Athletics: London Anniversary Games. Gabby Logan presents coverage from the Olympic Stadium in London. **1.15** Film: The Great Caruso. **(1951)** Musical biopic of opera singer Enrico Caruso, starring Marlon Brando. **3.00** Killer Whales: Beneath the Surface – Natural World. **(R) 3.45** Money for Nothing. **(R) 4.30** Rowing World Cup. **5.30** Flog It! **(R)**
- 6.00** **The Fifteen Billion Pound Railway: The Final Countdown** Part two of two. Engineers must construct and fit out a new station at Paddington, while a father and son team in Derby race to construct 66 trains for the Crossrail project. **(R)**
- 7.00** **Dragons' Den.** Entrepreneurs pitch their money-making ideas to a panel of self-made millionaires. Presented by Eva Davis. **(R)**
- 8.00** **The Life Swap Adventure.** A Norwegian farmer who is tiring of his demanding life swaps places with a taxi driver from Devon who wants to run a farm, but fears the financial instability. Last in the series.
- 9.00** **Film: Foxcatcher.** **(2014) Premiere** A reclusive, eccentric millionaire persuades an Olympic gold-medal-winning wrestler to join his personal team. Initially flattered by the attention lavished upon him by his wealthy new friend, the fighter flourishes – but tension soon grows between them when his brother is employed as a coach, a situation that leads to tragedy. Fact-based drama. Starring Steve Carell, Channing Tatum and Mark Ruffalo.
- 11.05** **White Gold.** In a bid to get back everything he has lost, his marriage, his livelihood and self-worth, Vincent concocts a spectacular plot to return to his rightful place. Last in the series. **(R)**
- 11.35** **Film: The Goob.** **(2014) Premiere** A teenager develops a tense relationship with his mother's new boyfriend and becomes attracted to a worker in a pumpkin field. Drama, with Liam Walpole.
- 1.00** **Sign Zone: Question Time.** **(R) 2.00** Holby City. **(R) 3.00** This Is BBC Two.

ITV

- 6.00** CITV: Grizzly Tales for Gruesome Kids. **(R) 6.10** Grizzly Tales for Gruesome Kids. **(R) 6.20** Sooty. **(R) 6.30** Signed Stories: Share a Story. **(R) 6.35** Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures. **(R) 6.50** Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures. **(R) 7.00** Oddbods. **(R) 7.05** Super 4. **(R) 7.20** Marvel Avengers Assemble. **(R) 7.45** Thunderbirds Are Go. **(R) 8.10** Ben 10. **8.25** ITV News. **8.30** Weekend. **9.25** Wild Animal Reunions. **(R) 10.15** Bridge Ringer. **(R) 11.15** Love Your Garden. **(R) 12.15** ITV News. **12.25** Babushka. **(R) 1.30** The Voice Kids. **(R) 3.00** Bear Grylls Survival School. **(R) 3.30** Film: Moonraker. **(1979)** James Bond spy adventure, starring Roger Moore.
- 6.00** **Regional Programme.** Weather.
- 6.15** **ITV News:** Weather.
- 6.30** **The Celebrity Chase.** Bradley Walsh presents as celebrity contestants Todd Carty, Jo Pavey, Saira Khan and Dominic Holland pit their wits against ruthless quiz genius the Chaser in the hope of winning a potential prize pot worth thousands of pounds. They must work as a team and play strategically to answer general knowledge questions against the clock and race down the game board to the exit without being caught.
- 7.30** **The Voice Kids.** Emma Willis presents the junior version of the singing talent contest, as the battle phase continues. Coaches Will.i.am, Danny Jones and Pixie Lott must decide which performers out of the remaining trios will be chosen to go through to the semi-final.
- 9.00** **The Loch.** Annie finds murder weapons used by the killer and tracks the culprit down, leading to a dangerous confrontation in the dark corridors of the local hydroelectric dam.
- 10.00** **ITV News:** Weather.
- 10.20** **Lethal Weapon.** Riggs makes a shocking discovery about Miranda's death, which leads him back to the cartel in a frantic search for answers. Clayne Crawford and Kevin Rahm star. **(R)**
- 11.20** **Take Me Out.** Men try to impress 30 single women and win a date – but must get the female participants to keep their lights on as a sign of approval. **(R)**
- 12.25** **Jackpot247.** **3.00** Motorsport UK. **3.50** British Superbike Championship Highlights. **4.40** ITV Nightscreen.

CHANNEL 4

- 6.10** **The King of Queens.** **(R) 6.35** The King of Queens. **(R) 7.05** Everybody Loves Raymond. **(R) 7.30** Everybody Loves Raymond. **(R) 7.55** Frasier. **(R) 8.25** Frasier. **(R) 9.00** Frasier. **(R) 9.30** Sunday Brunch. **12.30** Eat the Week.
- 1.30** **The Simpsons.** **(R) 2.00** The Simpsons. **(R) 2.25** George Clarke's Amazing Spaces. **(R) 3.10** A Place in the Sun: Winter Sun. **(R) 4.10** Homes by the Sea. **5.15** Channel 4 News. **5.45** Formula 1 Austrian Grand Prix Highlights.
- 8.00** **Secrets of China's Forbidden City.** Documentary exploring the Beijing palace that housed Chinese emperors for 600 years. The programme reveals the current conservation work being carried out and uncovers new details about past rulers, including trade with Europe and how a marble staircase was transported along an ice road. A scale model is used to demonstrate how the structure was built to withstand earthquakes.
- 9.00** **The Handmaid's Tale.** Offred remembers her family's escape attempt, leading to a shocking revelation about her life before the Gilead regime that gives her a new perspective on her current situation.
- 10.00** **Epidemic: When Britain Fought AIDS.** The impact of the disease on British society, featuring personal stories from activists, doctors, and those whose lives were affected, including Paul O'Grady and Jean Paul Gaullier.
- 10.55** **8 Out of 10 Cats Does Countdown.** Jimmy Carr hosts, with Sean Lock and Stephen Mangan taking on guest captain Richard Ayoade and Katherine Ryan, and Bill Bailey in Dictionary Corner. **(R)**
- 11.55** **Film: This Means War.** **(2012)** Two secret agents fall in love with the same woman and use their talents to sabotage each other's chances of romance. Comedy, with Reese Witherspoon, Chris Pine and Tom Hardy.
- 1.45** **Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA.** A failing New York restaurant. **(R) 2.35** The Last Leg. A comic review of the past seven days. **(R) 3.00** KOTV Boxing Weekly. **3.55** Gillette World Sport. **4.25** Shipping Wars UK. Stu and Jemma return sailing a boat from Cornwall to North Yorkshire. **(R) 5.05** Location, Location, Location. Helping prospective buyers in Oxfordshire. **(R)**

CHANNEL 5

- 6.00** **Milkshake!** Milkshake! Monkey. **6.05** Milkshake! Bob Box. **(R) 6.10** Mr Men. **(R) 6.20** Peppa Pig. **(R) 6.25** Peppa Pig. **(R) 6.30** Wiggly. **(R) 6.40** Paw Patrol. **(R) 6.50** Bob the Builder. **(R) 7.00** Fireman Sam. **(R) 7.15** Ollie the Little White Van. **(R) 7.20** Ollie the Little White Van. **(R) 7.25** Paw Patrol. **(R) 7.40** Blaze and the Monster Machines. **8.00** Noddy: Toyland Detective. **(R) 8.20** Wiggly. **(R) 8.30** Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom. **(R) 8.45** Shimmy and Shine. **(R) 9.10** Little Princess. **(R) 9.20** Peppa Pig. **(R) 9.30** Peppa Pig. **(R) 9.40** Peppa Pig. **(R) 9.50** Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom. **(R) 10.00** Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles.
- 10.35** **Access.** **10.40** Police Interceptors. **(R) 11.40** Police Interceptors. **(R) 12.40** Police Interceptors. **(R) 1.35** Film: The Flintstones. **(1994)** 3.15 Inside Windsor Castle. **(R) 4.15** Inside Windsor Castle. **(R) 5.15** Inside Windsor Castle. **(R)**
- 6.10** **Inside Windsor Castle.** A look at 20 years in the life of the Queen and her family, covering the era from 1972, when she celebrated her 25th wedding anniversary, to 1992, last in the series. **(R)**
- 7.00** **Cricket on 5.** England v South Africa. Highlights of the fourth day's play in the First Test of the four-match series, which took place at Lord's.
- 7.55** **5 News Weekend.**
- 8.00** **That's So 1990.** Memories of the year Italy hosted the World Cup, prime minister Mrs Thatcher handed over the reins to John Major and fears of the spread of BSE – so-called mad cow disease – grew. **(R)**
- 9.00** **Big Brother.** Daily round-up of highlights, featuring the latest tasks, games, arguments, laughs, diary room visits and bedroom chat-chat.
- 10.05** **OMG: Make Me a Famous Face.** People undergoing cosmetic surgery to look like celebrities, including Katie Price, Kim Kardashian and Zayn Malik. Plus, a man who wants to look like a Ken doll.
- 11.05** **Film: The Bounty Hunter.** **(2010)** A bail enforcement agent is assigned to track down his own ex-wife, a reporter who is investigating a murder cover-up. Action comedy, starring Gerard Butler and Jennifer Aniston.
- 1.00** **SuperCasino.** **3.10** The Hotel Inspector. **(R) 4.00** Britain's Greatest Bridges. **(R) 4.50** Great Artists. **(R)**

DIGITAL

- BBC Four**
- 7.00** **The Royal Ballet: Woof Works 9.00** Horizon: Space Volcanoes **10.00** The Sky at Night **10.30** Destination Titan **11.30** The Search for Life: The Drake Equation **12.30** Nature's Great Events **1.30** The Royal Ballet: Woof Works **3.30** Close
- ITV2**
- 11.50** **The Voice Kids 2.** Ninja Warrior UK **2.20** You've Been Framed! **Gold 2.55** Film: The Smurfs (2011) **3.55** PYI Daily **4.00** Film: The Smurfs (2011) **5.00** Film: St Trinian's 2: The Legend of Fritton's Gold (2009) **6.00** FYI Daily **6.05** Film: St Trinian's 2: The Legend of Fritton's Gold (2009) **7.10** Film: Gravity (2013) **8.15** FYI Daily **8.20** Film: Gravity (2013) **9.00** Love Island **10.00** Love Island: Afternoon **11.00** Family Guy **12.30** American Dad! **1.25** Totally Bonkers Guinness World Records **1.55** Planet's Funniest Animals **2.15** Teleshopping **5.45** ITV2 Nightscreen
- ITV3**
- 11.15** **The Darling Buds of May 12.30** The Casebook of Sherlock Holmes **2.50** Wyldlife **3.55** Foyle's War **6.00** Doc Martin **8.00** The Boozie Cruise 2: The Treasure Hunt **10.00** Law & Order: UK **12.00** Wire in the Blood **3.30** May the Best House Win **5.10** Rising Damp **5.30** ITV3 Nightscreen
- ITV4**
- 4.30** **Pawn Stars 5.00** Monster Car **6.00** Fierce **7.00** Road Racing Series **9.00** Film: Jaws (1975) **10.05** PYI Daily **10.10** Film: Jaws (1975) **11.40** Film: Renegades (1989) **12.40** PYI Daily **12.45** Film: Renegades (1989) **1.45** Tour de France Highlights **2.40** Football Rivalries **4.00** ITV4 Nightscreen **3.00** Teleshopping
- E4**
- 11.00** **Binky & JP's Baby.** Born in Chelsea **12.00** New Girl **1.00** Kevin Can Wait **1.30** The Big Bang Theory **6.00** Film: 101 Dalmatians (1996) **8.00** The Crystal Maze: Celebrity Special **9.00** Film: The Inbetweeners 2 (2014) **11.00** The Inbetweeners 2 **12.05** Rude Tube **1.05** Tattoo Fixers **2.10** 8 Out of 10 Cats **2.55** Gogglebox **3.45** Hollyoaks
- Film4**
- 11.00** **The Great St Trinian's Train Robbery (1966)** **1.00** The Phantom (1996) **3.00** Ever After: A Cinderella Story (1998) **5.20** A Thousand Words (2012) **7.15** Europa Report (2013) **9.00** Dawn of the Planet of the Apes (2014) Sci-fi thriller sequel, starring Andy Serkis.
- 11.45** **The Quiet Ones (2014)** Horror, starring Jared Harris. **1.45** To the Wonder (2012) **4.00** Close

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FILM CHOICES**MONDAY****Truth and Lies, Channel 5, 3.15pm**

Two former best friends and current enemies suspect each other of sending anonymous messages that threaten to expose their secrets. However, when they realise neither are behind it, the teenagers team up to investigate the source. Thriller, starring Dina Meyer, Emily Tennant and Keenan Tracey. (2015)

TUESDAY**Abducting Zoe, Channel 5, 3.15pm**

A detective tries to help a sixteen-year-old in the search for her kidnapped baby. Crime drama, starring Sammi Hanratty and Andrea Bowen. (2014)

WEDNESDAY**Rags to Riches: Ultimate Life, Channel 5, 3.15pm**

Jason Stevens is busy running his grandfather's foundation, while also having to fend off lawsuits from his extended family and lament a fleeing lover. When an inherited journal magically sends him back to 1941, it provides an unparalleled opportunity for him to witness the true rags-to-riches story of his late grandfather. Drama, starring Logan Bartholomew and Peter Fonda. (2013)



Blades of Glory, Friday, BBC1, 11.05pm

THURSDAY**Stranger in an Amish Town, Channel 5, 3.15pm**

A penniless stranger and his son turn up on the doorstep of three Amish sisters, who offer him a place to stay and a job as a handyman. The women's police officer niece is suspicious of the new arrival and tries to find out where he has come from. Romantic mystery based on Serena B Miller's novel Love Finds You in Sugarcreek, Ohio, starring Sarah Lancaster, Tom Everett Scott and Kelly McGillis. (2014)

FRIDAY**Blades of Glory, BBC1, 11.05pm**

A bad-boy figure skater and his effeminate arch-enemy are banned from the sport after their intense rivalry results in a brawl. However, the pair find a loophole in the regulations allowing them to enter the world championships as the first ever same-sex pair – if they can put aside their differences long enough to compete. Comedy, starring Will Ferrell. (2007)

New drama series is hoping to be a novel success

You can't beat a good drama – and it seems that the rest of the world agrees.

They form the core of pretty much all TV schedules, and we never seem to get tired of them. And every now and then, a very special one comes along that makes us sit up and take notice.

In The Dark may be one of those. It's a four-part series adapted by Danny Brocklehurst (whose previous projects include Ordinary Lies, Clocking Off and The Driver) from Mark Billingham's best-selling novels, his first books not to include the hugely popular Tom Thorne series.

Instead, the action focuses on the engaging but complex female detective Helen Weeks, who will tackle two cases.

"I am hugely thrilled that my stories are to be adapted for the screen and could not be more excited that it will be made by the BBC," says Billingham, who is currently preparing for his annual trip to the Theakston Old Peculier

Crime Writing Festival in Harrogate. "The journey from page to screen can often be tricky for authors, but with the amazing BBC Drama North team at the helm, it's one I cannot wait to embark on."

"I'm delighted to be making a show with BBC Drama North and thrilled we are setting the show in my home town of Manchester and making the city an integral part of the drama."

Brocklehurst is equally pleased to be involved in the project: "For me, crime drama is only interesting when it is told through character and in Helen Weeks, Mark has created a brilliant central character: a bawdy, funny, outspoken police woman who finds herself on the cusp of motherhood and has to grudgingly accept the vulnerability that brings to her."

The key theme of the drama – how well do we really know those closest to us? – is a theme I find endlessly fascinating, and the fact that Helen's own life has secrets, and duplicity makes the drama all the more interesting."

MyAnna Buring is the actress entrusted with bringing Helen Martin to life.

"What interested me was Danny Brocklehurst's writing and working with (head of BBC Drama North and executive producer) Hilary Martin," explains Buring. "I have such respect for their work and the way they conduct it. They have developed a great story and have now brought in a brilliant production and creative team, directors, and cast."

When we first meet Helen she is heavily pregnant, in fact, she's just two weeks away from giving birth.

She's nervous about her impending motherhood, and feels compelled to return to her rural home town of Polesford in Derbyshire with her partner, Paul, who is also a detective. She's soon embroiled in an abduction case and the chief suspect turns out to be the husband of Helen's childhood best friend Linda, who finds herself at the centre of a media storm.

But have the local police got the right man?

MONDAY**How to Retire at 40****Channel 4, 8.30pm**

As the slightly misleading title suggests, Anna Richardson chats to folks who have found clever or offbeat ways to retire early. They include Barney, a former accountant who retired at 43. So, not really 40 then. However, he will be sharing his tips for quitting the rat race early. Also featured are friends who found a new way to buy property for less; the man who's made a packet sending spuds through the post, and a family who insist on only spending money two days a week (though it's anyone's guess how much cash they spend on those days). Cameras also follow Pippa, who has made over £3million in two years; Sophie Morgan meets trend-spotters, and there are tips on how to get restaurant quality meals for a fraction of the price. Plus, Rhik Samadder meets more of the UK's leading supersavers.

TUESDAY**Tried and Tasted: The Ultimate Shopping List****Channel 4, 8pm**

Chef Michel Roux Jr and a panel of food experts blind taste-test some of the nation's favourite food and drink. Joining the host is restaurant manager and First Dates' Fred Sirieix, journalist, broadcaster

and critic Jay Rayner, baker and deli owner Stacie Stewart, and TV presenter and foodie mum Lucy Alexander. The panel this week choose between four different brands of steak and ale pie, houmous and sauvignon blanc – the UK's most popular wine.

WEDNESDAY**Love Your Garden****ITV, 8pm**

At Chandlers Ford near Eastleigh in Hampshire, Alan Titchmarsh and the team attempt to transform a neglected suburban back garden into a woodland-style retreat. The Richardson family, who own the residence, are facing a very difficult future. Following some challenging years, dad Jason has been taken off the heart and kidney transplant list. As a result, the family are tied to their home and are in need of an outdoor space which can become a retreat. Step forward Alan, David Domoney, Francis Tophill and Katie Rushworth, who battle terrible rain to make the Richardsons' dream a reality.

THURSDAY**Murdered for Being Different****BBC1, 10.45pm**

In the early hours of August 11, 2007, 20-year-old Sophie Lancaster and her boyfriend of three years, Robert Maltby, were attacked by a gang of youths while walking through a park near

their homes in Bacup, Lancashire. It was an unprovoked assault, initially on Robert who was knocked unconscious. While cradling his head, Sophie was kicked and died later in hospital. Those responsible had tormented the mild-mannered, sensitive couple due to their appearance – they were immersed in the goth culture. This moving and disturbing drama has been made in close collaboration with Sophie's family, Robert and the police, and examines exactly what happened.

BBC Proms 2017, Friday, BBC2, 9pm

PICK OF THE WEEK



MyAnna Buring stars, In the Dark, Tuesday, BBC1, 9pm

BEST OF THE REST

It also follows the story of a witness who felt compelled to come forward and stand up for what he believed was right.

FRIDAY**World Para Athletics Championships London 2017****Channel 4, 7.30pm**

Ade Adepitan, Sophie Morgan and Lee McKenzie introduce coverage of the evening session on day one of the Championships, taking place at The London Stadium in Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park. The men's T12 100m is due to get under way this evening, with five heats in the first round due to get the action under way on the track, and later they will be followed by several heats in the men's T28 800m and the women's T47 200m. Several finals are also scheduled to take place, with gold medals awarded in the men's F46 javelin and T54 100m, as well as the women's T34 100m and T15 1500m.

BBC Proms 2017**BBC2, 9pm**

The nation's spirit might have been beaten down by recent events, but one annual event you can always rely on to stir the blood and boost the morale is the Proms, and the 2017 edition promises to be more special than ever.

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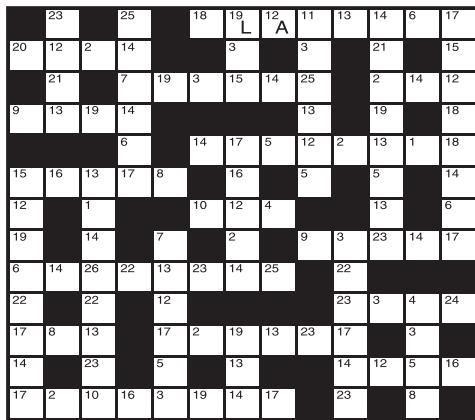


BRAIN GYM

No.437

Codeword

Each number in the grid represents a different letter of the alphabet and every letter of the alphabet is used. Use the given letter(s) to the right of the main grid to start you off.



LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION:

1	D	L	H	Y	J	Q	I	E	T	P	B	X
14	M	W	Z	O	A	C	U	G	F	K	S	V
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	R

Quiz

1. Of what is Soweto a contraction?
2. Where did Norwegian Liv Arnesen become the first woman to reach alone?
3. Which scavenger may be brown, striped or spotted?
4. What nationality was General Blücher, Wellington's ally at Waterloo?
5. Which Monty Python star wrote the novel Hemingway's Chair?
6. With which art form is 'Grandma' Moses associated?
7. Of which city is Spandau a suburb?
8. With which art form is the American Virgil Thomson associated?
9. What would someone with dysphagia have difficulty doing?
10. In which country is the Ruahine mountain range?

Double Crossword

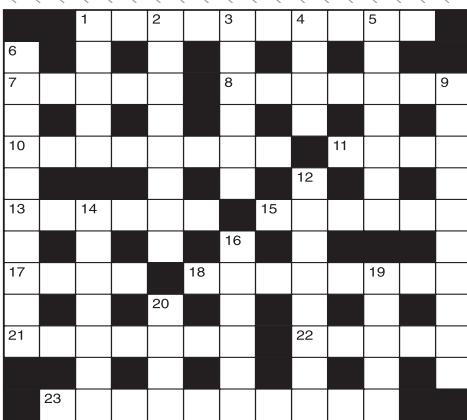
Choose either quick or cryptic clues - both fit the same grid.

Cryptic Clues: Across

1. A teacher has to look after a genius (6,4)
2. Guiding line about two similar points (8)
3. A plant useful in salads may be envied (6)
4. Suitable start for the hunting season (4)
5. Possibly retains, though being less agreeable (7)
6. I'm taking the attitude that it's rather a burden (10)
7. Light that goes up and down (4,6)
10. Good stroke for a cricketer, but not a golfer (3-5)
11. A girl to avoid (4)
13. Properly dressed soldiers are (2,4)
15. He provides a new setting for the doctor (6)
17. Terrible ruler of vain disposition (4)
18. Vendors, possibly nameless (8)
21. Being agreeable, but saying nothing (7)
22. Excel, but not in a party (5)
23. It necessitates a lot of extra work in the theatre (5,5)

Down

1. It's an idea if Tom comes up first (5)
2. Guiding line about two similar points (8)
3. A plant useful in salads may be envied (6)
4. Suitable start for the hunting season (4)
5. Possibly retains, though being less agreeable (7)
6. I'm taking the attitude that it's rather a burden (10)
7. Light that goes up and down (4,6)
10. Good stroke for a cricketer, but not a golfer (3-5)
11. A girl to avoid (4)
13. Properly dressed soldiers are (2,4)
15. He provides a new setting for the doctor (6)
17. Terrible ruler of vain disposition (4)
18. Vendors, possibly nameless (8)
21. Being agreeable, but saying nothing (7)
22. Excel, but not in a party (5)
23. It necessitates a lot of extra work in the theatre (5,5)



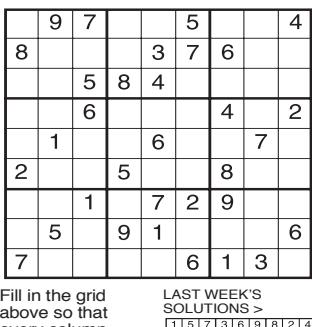
Quick Clues: Across

1. Rage (5)
2. Horse (8)
3. Ensnare (6)
4. Smack (4)
5. Casual (7)
6. Daybreak (4)
7. Fragrance (5)
8. Commerce (7)
10. Conversant (8)
11. Give out (Down: 1 Wears; 2 Ice; 3 Pain; 4 Electoral; 5 Aunties; 8 Right; 11 Faithless; 13 Inures; 14 Amiable; 16 Undue; 18 Erie; 20 Pea).
12. Retire (8)
13. Hero worshipper (7)
14. Rushes into boats (6)
15. Centre (6)
17. Besides (4)
18. Collect (6,2)
19. Capital wear for a bishop (5)
20. Surveyor's opinion (4)
23. Go first (4,3,3)

Down

1. Rage (5)
2. Horse (8)
3. Ensnare (6)
4. Smack (4)
5. Casual (7)
6. Daybreak (4)
7. Fragrance (5)
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17. Besides (4)
18. Collect (6,2)
19. Capital wear for a bishop (5)
20. Surveyor's opinion (4)
23. Go first (4,3,3)

Sudoku



LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS >

1	5	7	3	6	9	8	2	4
2	3	8	7	5	4	1	6	9
6	4	9	2	1	8	5	7	3
3	2	5	1	9	6	4	8	7
4	7	1	5	8	2	9	3	6
9	8	6	4	7	3	2	1	5
5	6	2	8	4	7	3	9	1
7	1	3	9	2	5	6	4	8
8	9	4	6	3	1	7	5	2

LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD SOLUTIONS:
CRYPTIC - Across: 6 Redcoat; 7 Clout; 9 Ark; 10 Intricate; 12 Making money; 15 Amateur team; 17 Eagle-eyed; 19 End; 21 Class;
22 Give out: Down: 1 Wears; 2 Ice; 3 Pain; 4 Electoral; 5 Aunties; 8 Right; 11 Faithless; 13 Inures; 14 Amiable; 16 Undue; 18 Erie; 20 Pea.
QUICK - Across: 6 Precede; 7 Humid; 9 Gap; 10 Recumbent; 12 Dissimulate; 15 Penetrating; 17 Contender; 19 Old; 21 Decoy; 22 Against. Down: 1 Break; 2 Act; 3 Idle; 4 Turbulent; 5 Dignity; 8 Summit; 11 Direction; 13 Strong; 14 Recover; 16 Clasp; 18 Edge; 20 Hit.

Niner

Each number from 1 to 9 represents a different letter. Solve the clues and insert the letters in the appropriate squares to discover a word which uses all nine letters.

6284237
454
189

gives a bird,
gives a second bird,
gives a winged creature.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Star Reader Travel

Hand picked holidays with you in mind

CHRISTMAS AT KEW GARDENS

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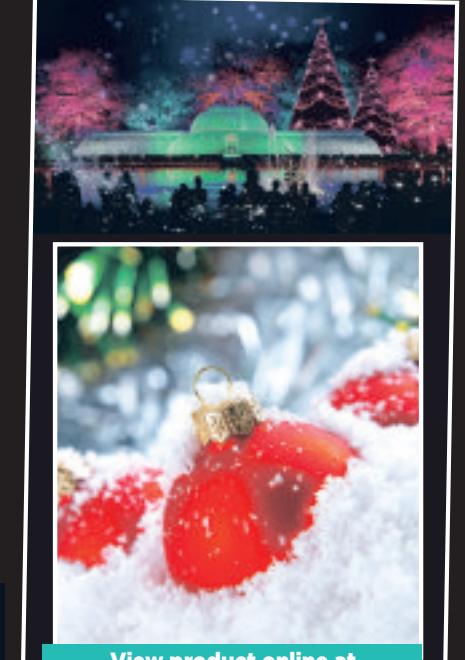
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SAT 8.30-16.

Sup it up – it's pure genius Bar none

If the West Midlands were to hand out a lifetime achievement award, a Godlike Genius Award or a most-influential restauranteur gong, there would be only one winner: Andreas Antonia.

For all of the Michelin stars that Birmingham and Ludlow have garnered over the past 20 years, for all of the improved standing that the region has enjoyed, Andreas has maintained his position at the forefront. He's had a star for longer than anyone else, he's employed and influenced more cooks and his imprint on the region's dining scene has become indelible.

Andreas was a mentor to some of the region's biggest and best chefs – the likes of fellow Michelin-star holders Luke Tipping of Simpsons and Glynn Purnell of Purnell's, not forgetting the multi-award-winning Andy Waters, of Waters Restaurant.

MEMORABLE

He's created a number of truly memorable restaurants during his many years in the region, most notably Simpsons, which he created in Kenilworth in 1993 then relocated to Edgbaston, and The Cross, at Kenilworth. More recently, he has collaborated with Paul Halsey, from Purity Brewing Co, to create Purecraft Bar and Kitchen, which has branches in Birmingham and Nottingham. And, as you'd expect, the food is absolutely stunning.

And yet Pure Bar is about much more than just great nosh. It celebrates the remarkable rise of craft beers, which have become ubiquitous in fashionable towns and cities across the UK.

Pure Bar is at the vanguard of that new wave of craft ales. Its mission is to create new beer fans. And it believes that matching great food and beer in an interesting atmosphere is the key to pleasurable



Raspberry beer arctic roll and white chocolate

Modern look – inside has an industrial vibe



evenings. The Birmingham branch opened in March 2014 and has exceeded expectation. It won the Great British Pub Awards National Award for Best Beer Pub in 2015 – the industry's Oscar equivalent – and remains at the cutting edge of great beer and food.

Andreas and Halsey are partnered by logistics and service man, Martin Hilton, a former director with Mitchells & Butler, to make their operation tick. Hashtag #DreamTeam, Pure Bar is about more than just great food and drink, however. It's a great environment in which to socialise and relax. Located at the far end of

Colmore Row, it's a short distance from the Town Hall, Symphony Hall and financial district. That means there's a constant buzz, day and night. On weekdays, it's full of city types and evenings with couples, friends and others and at weekends there's a different crowd, filling the venue with good vibes.

I visited for a midweek lunch and enjoyed a dining experience where food and service were both of the highest standard. The menu is a triumph. Though Antonia made his name by inspiring a generation of Michelin-star chefs to cook the best fine dining in the

West Midlands, Pure Bar is all about the simple things in life. So delicious fish and chips is served along with steak and fries, sausage rolls, Black Country pork pies and free range pickled eggs. Nothing could be cooler. Except, of course, under Antonia's brilliant gaze, the humble beef patty is elevated into a new realm. There are sharing boards of great cheese and charcuterie and the suppliers are the best in the region.

With flavoursome dishes, brilliant craft ales and polished service, it's pure enjoyment.

ANDY RICHARDSON

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ENVY US DUO

Thursday 20th July

EUREKA JAZZ BAND

Saturday 22nd July

PETER BOODIS R&R BAND

Thursday 27th July

**JOHN WILDWOOD &
COUNTRY FRIENDS**

Saturday 29th July

CARL ASHLEY

Thursday 3rd August

**BANK ST. SYNCOPATORS
JAZZ BAND**

Saturday 5th August

MIKE LEWIS

Thursday 10th August

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BINGO NIGHT every Wednesday start 9pm • Visitors always welcome.

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PROPERTY

YOUR WEEKLY
GUIDE TO HOME
BUYING AND
LETTING

Four-bedroomed detached property is well presented

A beautifully presented four-bedroomed detached family home, 20 West Butts Road, Rugeley, is for sale through JR Properties at £399,950 with part-exchange considered.

Its accommodation briefly comprises an entrance hallway, a guest WC, a lounge, dining room, fitted kitchen, study and utility. There is also a master bedroom with an en-suite and dressing room, three further bedrooms and bathroom. Outside is a driveway and a good garden to the rear.

In more detail the entrance hallway has stairs off and a useful storage cupboard. The guest cloakroom/WC has flooring tiling.

The lounge has a wall-mounted gas fire, laminate flooring and a window to the front. There are double doors to a dining room with laminate flooring and French doors to the rear garden.

Again having laminate flooring, the study room has two useful cupboards and a door through to the utility room. This has a work surface and space and plumbing for a washing machine and further appliance below and laminate flooring.

Having a range of high gloss white wall and base units with working surfaces over, the breakfast kitchen includes an electric double oven, five-ring gas hob with extractor hood over, a built-in microwave and integrated dishwasher. It has laminate flooring and French doors to the rear garden.

Upstairs, the master bedroom suite has laminate flooring and an archway to a dressing room, again with laminate flooring and an en-suite shower room. Bedroom two also has laminate flooring and there are two further bedrooms. The bathroom has a suite including a P-shaped bath with a shower over.

Outside, the front of the property has a horseshoe driveway with slate flower border. A wrought iron gate leads to the enclosed rear garden. This has a decked seating area leading to a good-sized lawn and shed.

TO VIEW THIS PROPERTY

AGENT: JR Properties

TEL: 01889 577731

EMAIL: enquiries@jrproperties.com



KEY FEATURES

Detached

4 bedrooms

Beautifully presented

Spacious

En-suite & dressing room



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Lupin Drive, Huntington

- Modern Second Floor Flat
- Two Double Bedrooms
- 40% Shared Ownership
- Generous Accommodation
- Immaculately Presented
- D/Glazed & Gas/C Heating

£41,000

Woodford End, Chadsmoor

- Modern Style Apartment
- 1 Bedroom
- Buy To Let Investment
- Ground Floor
- Communal Parking
- EPC - C

£60,000

Barnard Way, Cannock

- Ground Floor Apartment
- Two Bedrooms
- Store Room
- Ideal Buy To Let
- Tenant in, Paying £500

£87,500



Teddesley Way, Huntington

- Three Bed Detached
- Corner Plot in Cul-de-sac
- Bathroom & Ensuite
- Covered Garage

£175,000

- Lounge/Diner
- No Chain Involved
- Enclosed Rear Garden
- Off Road Parking



New Plant Lane, Chase Terrace

- Modern Semi Detached
- Three Bedrooms
- Immaculate Condition
- Lounge/Diner

£189,950

- Fully Fitted Kitchen
- Garage
- Enclosed Rear Garden



Heath Gap Road, Cannock

- Semi Detached Bungalow
- Two Bedrooms
- Lounge & Conservatory
- Dining Kitchen

£190,000

- Extensive Private Rear Garden
- Very Well Presented



Short Street, Cannock

- Charming Period Style Detached Home
- Four Bedrooms
- Standing On Corner Plot
- Gas Central Heating & Double Glazing

£220,000

- Detached Double Garage
- Delightful Garden
- Viewing Essential



Hatton Road, Cannock

- Detached Family Home
- Four Good Size Bedrooms
- Open Fields To The Front
- Two Reception Rooms

£249,950

- Downstairs WC
- Very Popular Location
- Carport & Garage

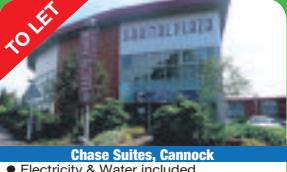


Meriden Close, Cannock

- Detached Bungalow
- 3 Bedrooms
- Very Spacious
- 3 Reception Rooms

£255,000

- Cul De Sac Location
- Garage
- No Upward Chain
- EPC - TBC



Woodland Court, Hedgesford

- Ground Floor Apartment
- One Double Bedroom
- Open Plan Lounge / Kitchen
- Gas Central Heating
- Close To Hedgesford Town Centre
- Must Be Viewed

£85,000

Chase Suites, Cannock

- Electricity & Water included
- Studio style apartment
- Fully furnished
- Shower room
- No off road parking
- Available now.

£475pcm Sorry no dss & no pets

Lomax Road, Hedgesford

- Ground floor apartment
- Open plan lounge/kitchen
- Two bedrooms
- Modern Style bathroom
- Double glazing & gas central heating
- Available now.

£495pcm Sorry no dss & no pets

Blake Close, Cannock

- Modern Style Town House EPC - D
- Sought After Location
- Two Bedrooms
- Ideal Investment
- Gardens & Parking
- No Chain

£110,000

Stephenson Way, Hedgesford

- Ground floor apartment
- Close to Hedgesford train station
- Spacious lounge
- Kitchen with appliances
- Two bedrooms
- Allocated parking

£540pcm Sorry no dss & no pets

Acacia Grove, Wimblebury

- Reception porch
- Hallway
- Fitted kitchen with appliances
- Living room with gas fire
- Bedroom with fitted wardrobes
- Shower room

£525pcm Sorry no dss and no pets

Oxford Road, Cannock

- NO CHAIN INVOLVED
- TWO BED END TERRACE
- CONSERVATORY
- CLOSE TO RAILWAY STATION
- GARAGE / PARKING AT REAR
- GAS CENTRAL HEATING SYSTEM

£130,000

Sandpiper Close, Hedgesford

- Semi detached home
- Lounge with feature fireplace
- Kitchen with dining area
- Two bedrooms
- Electric heating
- Available now.

£550pcm Sorry no dss & no pets

Chase Suites

- Modern part furnished apartment
- Spacious living room
- Open plan kitchen with some appliances
- Double bedroom Shower room
- Double glazing
- Electricity and water included

£595pcm Sorry no dss & no pets

Foxtail Way, Wimblebury

- MODERN TOWN HOUSE
- OPEN PLAN KITCHEN / DINER
- THREE BEDROOMS
- ENSUITE & DRESSING AREA

£175,000

- GARDEN & GARAGE
- SOLD WITHIN 4 DAYS



Hedgesford Road, Norton Canes

- Detached Three Bedroom House
- Views To The Front Over Field
- No Upward Chain
- Lounge and Dining Room

£179,950

- Large Block Paved Driveway
- Gas Central Heating System



Kenmore Avenue, Hedgesford

- Corner Plot In Small Cul-de-Sac
- Three Good Size Bedrooms
- Could Be Split into 4 Bed
- Spacious Lounge / Dining Room

£188,000

- Fitted Kitchen & Utility
- En-suite Shower Room & Bathroom

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Commercial Surveys



Pebblemill Close, Cannock

- Four Bedroom Detached Gas Central Heating System
- Close To Cannock Town
- No Upward Chain

£200,000



Bowers Court, Bowers Lane, Rugeley

- Comprising Of Four Semi Detached Family Homes
- Three Bedrooms
- Open Plan Dining Kitchen

Prices From £215,000



- Two or Three Storey Available
- High Specification
- Please Call The Office For Further Details



Burgoyne Street Site, Hengstford

- An Exciting New Build Development
- All 3 Bedrooms
- Construction in Progress
- Both 2 & 3 Storey
- Terraced & Semi-Detached Homes
- Available NOW!

from £146,950



Huntington Terrace Road, Chadswood

- Detached Three Bedroom
- Lounge/Diner & Guest WC
- Large Rear Garden
- Modern Fitted Kitchen
- No Chain Involved
- Gas Central Heating

£159,950



Rowan Close, Huntington

- Immaculate Four Bed Home
- Stylish Dining Kitchen
- Spacious Lounge & Conservatory
- Bathroom & Ensuite

£215,000



- Garage & Downstairs WC
- Low Maintenance Rear Garden
- Close To Cannock Chase



The Malt House, Lichfield

- STUNNING GROUND FLOOR DUPLEX APARTMENT
- MODERN OPEN PLAN LIVING
- TWO DOUBLE BEDROOMS

£279,950



Olde Hall Lane, Great Wyrley

- Detached Home
- Four Good Size Bedrooms
- Refurbished Kitchen & Utility
- Huge Conservatory

Offers Over £325,000



- Detached Double Garage
- Guest WC
- No Chain



Old Penkridge Road, Cannock

- Detached Family Home
- Five Bedrooms & Study
- Two Bathrooms
- Open Plan Kitchen / Dining Room

£455,000



- Living Room & Family Room
- No Upward Chain
- Utility / WC

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Ullswater Place, Cannock

- Detached Home
- Five Bedrooms
- In Need Of Modernisation
- Spacious

£210,000



Keys Park Road, Wimblebury

- Detached Family Home
- Three Double Bedrooms
- Bathroom & Ensuite
- Modern Kitchen & Utility

Offers Over £230,000



Lichfield Road, Stafford

- In Need Of Modernisation, Cash Buyer Only
- Spacious Three Storey Home Rear Garden
- Close To Town
- 3 Bedrooms (EPC - F)
- Three Reception Rooms None
- Shower Room & Bathroom

£95,000



Bideford Way, Cannock

- Detached Bungalow
- Large Lounge
- Kitchen/ diner
- Conservatory
- Three bedrooms
- Master bedroom with ensuite

£250,000



Nightingale Close, Huntington

- Fully Refurbished
- Stunning Conversation
- Popular Residential Area
- EPC - D

Heath Hayes Highfield Road REDUCED

This executive detached family home is located in a much sought after cul-de-sac in the popular Heath Hayes area of Cannock. The deceptively spacious well presented accommodation in brief consists of an entrance hall, lounge, sitting room, dining room, conservatory, luxury kitchen, utility, guest WC, four bedrooms, en-suite and family bathroom. Externally the property benefits from having a block paved driveway, garage and a landscaped enclosed rear garden.

4 3 2 EPCC £300,000

Heath Hayes Blithfield Place NEW

4 2 2 EPCE £275,000

BEE HAPPY

BUTTERSJOHNBEE.COM

Huntington Comfrey Close NEW

4 1 2 EPCC £219,995

4 1 2 EPCC £165,000

2 1 1 EPCC £115,000

Wimblebury Glover Street NEW

SOLD S.T.C. Similar Properties Required £177,500

3 1 2 EPC TBA

Wimblebury Cannel Mount NEW

SOLD S.T.C. Similar Properties Required £150,000

3 1 1 EPC TBA

Butters John Bee are delighted to be offering for sale this very well presented modern 3 storey family home which is situated on a popular modern residential development on the outskirts of Cannock. In Brief the accommodation consists of a entrance hall, guest WC, lounge, kitchen, master bedroom with en-suite, three further bedrooms, family bathroom, driveway, garage and a landscaped garden with artificial lawn.

Heath Hayes Langtree Close NEW

4 2 2 EPCD £210,000

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BUTTERSJOHNBEE.COM

Cannock Redwood Drive NEW

3 1 1 EPCC £165,000

2 1 1 EPCC £115,000

Norton Canes Brownhills Road NEW

2 2 1 EPCD £125,000

Heath Hayes Hobby Way NEW

2 1 1 EPCC £115,000



Family property with a one-bedroom annexe

This beautiful detached property in Uxbridge Street, Hedsor, has been refurbished to a high specification.

It is for sale through Jayman Estate Agents at £490,000.

The accommodation briefly comprises an entrance hall, a downstairs WC, a lounge, a sitting room, a kitchen, a conservatory, an office, four bedrooms, a family bathroom and a separate WC.

The property also benefits from

HEDNESFORD
£490,000

having an annexe which comprises of its own lounge, a kitchen/diner, downstairs WC, a bedroom and a bathroom.

Outside, the property is approached via a paved driveway, and there is an extensive garden to the rear.

There are other benefits with this property including a garage with an incorporated gym, a lodge and a gated entrance.

The selling agents are expecting the sale of this property to generate a lot of interest.

Viewing is highly recommended to appreciate all that is on offer.

For further information, or to book a viewing, call Jayman on 01543 505566 or visit www.jayman.co.uk

01543 468847

Suite 1, Watling Chambers,
214 Watling Street, A5, Cannock, WS11 0BD

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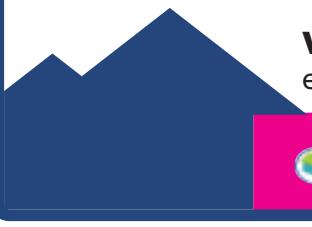
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*terms and conditions apply.

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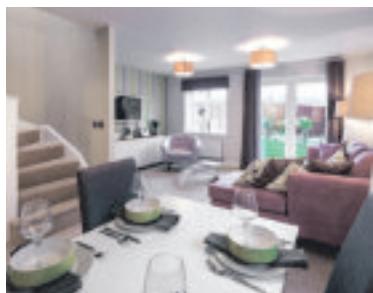


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The wait is over for our exclusive launch event!



Typical interiors.



Computer generated image, details may vary.

CHAPEL COURT High Street, Burntwood WS7 3XQ

Visit our Coney Lodge development on Saturday 8th and Sunday 9th July to secure your new home.

Available with Help to Buy, each of our four styles include:

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- fitted mirrored wardrobes to the master bedroom

Join us this weekend and take advantage of:

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- assistance towards legal fees
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Talk to one of our friendly Sales Advisors to discover how you could own your new Chapel Court home.

Visit Coney Lodge at Rugeley Road, Burntwood WS7 1NT between 11am and 5pm on Saturday 8th and Sunday 9th July, call 01543 331829 or email chapelcourt@cameronhomes.co.uk

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+ VAT

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No Let - No Fee - No Hidden Extras

SALES

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EPC's

35 GORSEY LANE, CANNOCK



CONSIDERABLY EXTENDED AND IMPROVED FOUR BEDROOMED DETACHED FAMILY HOUSE
Offering Well Equipped Accommodation Located In Much Sought After Residential Area Of The Town

- ◆ Sitting room & living room
- ◆ Double glazed conservatory
- ◆ L-shaped breakfast kitchen
- ◆ Utility room/cloaks room
- ◆ Four bedrooms
- ◆ Family bathroom
- ◆ En-suite shower room
- ◆ Sorry no pets, smokers or DSS
- ◆ EPC rating: D (57)

£1400pcm

232 HUNTINGTON TERRACE ROAD, CANNOCK



WELL EQUIPPED AND PRESENTED TWO BEDROOM MID MEWS HOUSE

- ◆ Cloakroom with WC
- ◆ Lounge
- ◆ Kitchen
- ◆ Two double bedrooms
- ◆ Bathroom
- ◆ Gas central heating
- ◆ Fully double glazed
- ◆ Sorry no pets, smokers or DSS
- ◆ EPC rating: tbc

£595pcm

18 KINROSS AVENUE, HEDNESFORD



WELL APPOINTED DECEPTIVELY SPACIOUS FOUR BEDROOM DETACHED BUNGALOW
Located In Sought After Residential Area

- ◆ Lounge & dining area
- ◆ Kitchen
- ◆ Master bedroom with dressing area & en-suite
- ◆ Three further bedrooms
- ◆ Family bathroom
- ◆ Gardens & off road parking to the rear
- ◆ Sorry no pets, smokers, DSS or sharers
- ◆ EPC rating: D (58)

£850pcm

11 VICTORIA TERRACE, NORTH STREET, BRIDGTOWN



WELL EQUIPPED SPACIOUS SECOND FLOOR FLAT
Convenient For Transport Links & Local Facilities

- ◆ Entrance lobby
- ◆ Lounge
- ◆ Kitchen
- ◆ Two bedrooms
- ◆ Bathroom
- ◆ Fully double glazed
- ◆ Gas central heating
- ◆ Allocated secure parking
- ◆ Sorry no pets, smokers or DSS
- ◆ EPC rating: C (79)

£525pcm

4 HATHERTON HOUSE, PENKRIDGE



WELL EQUIPPED TWO BEDROOM GROUND FLOOR APARTMENT
Located In Sought After Area Convenient For Facilities At The Village Centre

- ◆ Lounge
- ◆ Kitchen
- ◆ Two bedrooms
- ◆ En-suite shower room
- ◆ Family bathroom
- ◆ Gas central heating
- ◆ Double glazed
- ◆ Allocated parking
- ◆ Sorry no pets, DSS or smokers
- ◆ EPC rating: C (77)

£550pcm

4 BRADBURY COURT, HEDNESFORD



FOUR BEDROOM DETACHED HOUSE
located In Private Cul-De-Sac

- ◆ Reception hall & cloakroom with WC
- ◆ Lounge and dining room
- ◆ Large integrated kitchen
- ◆ Utility room
- ◆ Four bedrooms
- ◆ En-suite shower room & family bathroom
- ◆ Fully double glazed
- ◆ Sorry no pets, smokers or DSS
- ◆ EPC rating: D (59)

£825pcm

16 BROMLEY CLOSE, HEDNESFORD



UNDER APPLICATION

WELL EQUIPPED THREE BEDROOM SEMI DETACHED HOUSE
Located In Popular Residential Area

- ◆ Lounge
- ◆ Dining kitchen
- ◆ Two bedrooms
- ◆ Refitted bathroom
- ◆ Double glazed conservatory
- ◆ Sorry no pets, smokers or DSS
- ◆ EPC rating: C (71)

£650pcm

76 LANGDALE DRIVE, CANNOCK



THREE BEDROOM SEMI DETACHED HOME
Conveniently Located For Facilities At The Town Centre

- ◆ Lounge/dining area
- ◆ Kitchen
- ◆ Three bedrooms
- ◆ Bathroom
- ◆ Integral garage
- ◆ Gardens
- ◆ All windows double glazed
- ◆ Gas central heating
- ◆ Sorry no smokers, pets or DSS allowed
- ◆ EPC rating: C (72)

£695pcm

FLAT 2 PILLATON HOUSE, CROWNBRIDGE COURT, PENKRIDGE



WELL EQUIPPED TWO BEDROOM GROUND FLOOR APARTMENT
Locally Within The Luxury Crownbridge Court Development Conveniently Situated For Facilities Within The Village Centre

- ◆ Lounge
- ◆ Part tiled kitchen
- ◆ Two bedrooms
- ◆ En-suite shower room
- ◆ Bathrooms
- ◆ Double glazed conservatory
- ◆ Security phone entry system
- ◆ Sorry no pets, smokers or DSS
- ◆ EPC rating: C (79)

£550pcm

339 LONGFORD ROAD, CANNOCK



TWO BEDROOM BUNGALOW
located In Sought After Residential Area

- ◆ Lounge
- ◆ Breakfast kitchen
- ◆ UPVC double glazed conservatory
- ◆ Two bedrooms
- ◆ Shower room
- ◆ Fully double glazed
- ◆ Sorry no DSS, pets or smokers
- ◆ EPC rating: D (61)

£625pcm

1C CANNOCK ROAD, BURNTWOOD



WELL PRESENTED ONE BEDROOM FIRST FLOOR FLAT
Convenient For EPC Facilities

- ◆ Entrance lobby
- ◆ Hall
- ◆ Lounge
- ◆ Kitchen
- ◆ Bedroom
- ◆ Bathrooms
- ◆ Fully double glazed
- ◆ Gas central heating
- ◆ Sorry no pets, smokers or DSS
- ◆ EPC rating: D (67)

£450pcm

50 GLADSTONE ROAD, HEATH HAYES



WELL PRESENTED TWO BEDROOM DETACHED BUNGALOW

- ◆ Lounge
- ◆ Dining kitchen
- ◆ UPVC double glazed conservatory
- ◆ Two bedrooms
- ◆ Shower room
- ◆ Fully double glazed
- ◆ Gas central heating
- ◆ Sorry no DSS, pets or smokers
- ◆ EPC rating: D (66)

£695pcm

1 CLOCK MEWS, TEDDLESLEY PARK ESTATE, PENKRIDGE



SINGLE STOREY BARN CONVERSION
Situated On The Picturesque Rural Estates Of Teddlesley Park

- ◆ Fitted dining kitchen
- ◆ Lounge
- ◆ Inner hall
- ◆ Two double bedrooms
- ◆ Family bathroom
- ◆ Fully double glazed
- ◆ Gas central heating
- ◆ Sorry no pets, smokers or children
- ◆ EPC rating: C (69)

£650pcm (Plus Service Charge)

48 ST JOHNS ROAD, CANNOCK



THREE BEDROOM SEMI DETACHED HOUSE
Conveniently Located For Facilities At The Town Centre

- ◆ Lounge
- ◆ Breakfast kitchen
- ◆ Ground floor WC
- ◆ Three double bedrooms
- ◆ Refitted family bathroom
- ◆ Built-on garage
- ◆ Predominantly double glazed
- ◆ Oil fired central heating
- ◆ Sorry no DSS, pets, smokers or children
- ◆ EPC rating: F (35)

£695pcm

APARTMENT 4 MANOR COURT, 7A TANHOUSE FARM ROAD, SOLIHULL



WELL EQUIPPED GROUND FLOOR TWO BEDROOM APARTMENT
Conveniently Located In Much Sought After Residential Area

- ◆ Lounge
- ◆ Breakfast kitchen
- ◆ Two bedrooms
- ◆ Bathroom
- ◆ Fully double glazed
- ◆ Communal grounds
- ◆ Sorry no smokers, pets or DSS
- ◆ EPC rating: C (73)

£625pcm



0.7% COMMISSION

+ vat

Subject to a minimum fee of £750 + vat
NO SALE - NO FEE

SALES**LETTINGS****MANAGEMENT****AUCTIONS****SURVEYS****COMMERCIAL****EPC's****BELLA VISTA, COLEY LANE, LITTLE HAYWOOD**

£349,950 FREEHOLD

RECENTLY CONSTRUCTED WELL EQUIPPED INDIVIDUALLY DESIGNED DETACHED RESIDENCE OFFERING FLEXIBLE 3/4 BEDROOMED ACCOMMODATION

Occupying Flexible 3/4 Bedroomed Accommodation Occupying Private Gardens In An Elevated Position With Views To Cannock Chase Located On The Edge On This Popular Staffordshire Village

- ◆ Lounge
- ◆ Private gardens
- ◆ Kitchen/dining/family/garden room
- ◆ Detached garage
- ◆ Bedroom 4/study
- ◆ Gas fired central heating
- ◆ Three first floor bedrooms
- ◆ Heating
- ◆ En-suite shower room and family bathroom
- ◆ Fully double glazed
- ◆ EPC rating B (86)

104 HATHERTON ROAD, CANNOCK

NO CHAIN

£349,950 FREEHOLD

AN EXTENDED WELL EQUIPPED FIVE BEDROOMED FAMILY RESIDENCE Located In Sought After Residential Area Of The Town

- ◆ Enclosed porch & reception hall
- ◆ Second floor bedroom & ensuite bathroom
- ◆ Guest cloakroom with WC
- ◆ Gas central heating & fully double glazed
- ◆ Kitchen (Two UPVC double glazed conservatories)
- ◆ Integral garage (limited width) & large gardens
- ◆ Four first floor bedrooms & family bathroom
- ◆ EPC rating D (64)

42 VALE GARDENS, PENKRDGE

NO CHAIN

TWO BEDROOMED SECOND FLOOR FLAT LOCATED IN THIS POPULAR SOUTH STAFFORDSHIRE MARKET VILLAGE Conveniently Located For Easy Access To Good Facilities

- ◆ Communal hall, stairs and landing
- ◆ Bathrooms
- ◆ Entrance lobby with cloakroom
- ◆ Lounge
- ◆ Breakfast kitchen
- ◆ Inner lobby
- ◆ Gas fired central heating
- ◆ Fully double glazed
- ◆ EPC rating D (68)

£99,950

IVY HOUSE BARN, SLINDON, ECCLESALL

£765,000 FREEHOLD

DETACHED THREE BEDROOMED BARN CONVERSION RESIDENCE OFFERING CHARACTERFUL WELL EQUIPPED FAMILY ACCOMMODATION AND EQUESTRIAN FACILITIES INCLUDING STABLE BLOCK WITH TACK ROOM, MENAGE, GARAGE AND SECURE OFF ROAD PARKING TOGETHER WITH ORNAMENTAL GARDENS AND PADDOCKS EXTENDING TO APPROXIMATELY 3 ACRES CONVENIENT FOR FACILITIES AT ECCLESALL

- ◆ Reception hall
- ◆ Detached double garage
- ◆ Lounge
- ◆ Five stables, tack room and menage
- ◆ Fitted dining kitchen
- ◆ Gardens and paddocks to 7.9 of an acre approx
- ◆ Three double bedrooms
- ◆ Ensuite shower room and bathroom
- ◆ Secure off road parking
- ◆ EPC rating E (45)

44 SHAWS LANE, GREAT WYRLEY

NEW PRICE

WELL EQUIPPED TWO BEDROOMED DETACHED BUNGALOW LOCATED IN POPULAR RESIDENTIAL AREA OF THIS MUCH SOUGHT AFTER SOUTH STAFFORDSHIRE VILLAGE Convenient For Wide Range Of Local Facilities

- ◆ Lounge with dining area
- ◆ Gardens and off road parking
- ◆ Kitchen
- ◆ Electric heating
- ◆ Two double bedrooms
- ◆ Refitted shower room
- ◆ Sun lounge and cellar storage area
- ◆ EPC rating F (27)

£216,950 FREEHOLD

KINNINVIE, WOLVERHAMPTON ROAD, PENKRDGE

NEW PRICE

CONSIDERABLY EXTENDED AND IMPROVED 3 BEDROOMED SEMI DETACHED HOUSE Originally Built In The Popular Interwar Period In This Much Sought After South Staffordshire Market Village

- ◆ Lounge
- ◆ Well stocked
- ◆ Extended refitted L shaped dining kitchen
- ◆ Off road parking
- ◆ Refitted cloaks/ shower room
- ◆ Fully double glazed
- ◆ Three bedrooms
- ◆ Heating
- ◆ Refitted bathroom
- ◆ EPC rating E (47)

£229,950 FREEHOLD

40 ANSTY DRIVE, HEATH HAYES

£199,950 FREEHOLD

IMPROVED WELL EQUIPPED THREE BEDROOMED LINKED DETACHED HOUSE

located In Much Sought After Residential Area Conveniently Located For Facilities

- ◆ Entrance lobby
- ◆ Well stocked
- ◆ Lounge
- ◆ gardens
- ◆ Refitted dining kitchen
- ◆ Gas fired central heating
- ◆ Three bedrooms
- ◆ heating
- ◆ Bathroom
- ◆ Fully double glazed
- ◆ Built-on garage
- ◆ EPC rating D (55)

4 BALMORAL COURT, BELT ROAD, HEDNESFORD

NO CHAIN

GROUND FLOOR TWO BEDROOMED FLAT Conveniently Located For Facilities

- ◆ Enclosed porch
- ◆ Reception hall
- ◆ Lounge
- ◆ Kitchen
- ◆ Two bedrooms
- ◆ Allocated parking space
- ◆ Communal grounds
- ◆ Electric heating
- ◆ Fully double glazed
- ◆ EPC rating C (74)

£64,950 For 90% Share

126 HATHERTON ROAD, CANNOCK

NO CHAIN

THREE BEDROOMED DETACHED FAMILY HOUSE Located In Much Sought After Residential Area Of The Town

- ◆ Wet room shower/ cloakroom
- ◆ Detached garage
- ◆ Well stocked south facing rear garden
- ◆ Two reception rooms
- ◆ Kitchen
- ◆ Gas fired central heating
- ◆ Three bedrooms
- ◆ heating
- ◆ Bathroom and separate toilet
- ◆ Fully double glazed
- ◆ EPC rating tbc

£279,950 FREEHOLD

12 ULLSWATER PLACE, CANNOCK

£239,950 FREEHOLD

WELL EQUIPPED DECEPTIVELY SPACIOUS 3 BEDROOMED DETACHED BUNGALOW Located In popular Cul-De-Sac convenient For Facilities at the Town Centre

- ◆ Reception hall
- ◆ Well stocked
- ◆ L shaped lounge/dining area
- ◆ gardens
- ◆ Gas fired central heating
- ◆ Kitchen
- ◆ Three bedrooms
- ◆ heating
- ◆ Bathroom
- ◆ Fully double glazed
- ◆ Built on garage
- ◆ EPC rating D (63)

29 KENT PLACE, HEATH HAYES

NO CHAIN

SEMI DETACHED ONE BEDROOMED BUNGALOW Located In Popular Cul-De-Sac Convenient For Facilities at Heath Hayes Centre

- ◆ Lounge
- ◆ Kitchen
- ◆ Double glazed conservatory
- ◆ Bed room
- ◆ Possible garage space/off road parking
- ◆ Gardens
- ◆ Gas fired central heating
- ◆ Predominantly double glazed
- ◆ EPC rating D (64)

£114,950 FREEHOLD

HIGHFIELDS GARDENS

HIGH MOUNT STREET, HEDNESFORD, WS12 4BN (WITH ACCESS BETWEEN 93 AND 97)



PHASE III OF WELL EQUIPPED TWO AND FOUR BEDROOMED HOMES Being built as part of a private owner/occupier development of 22 dwellings

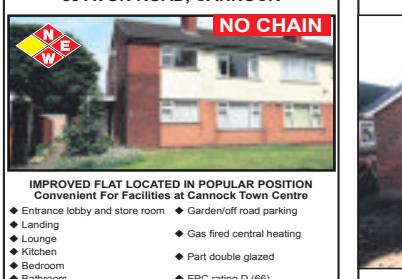
- ◆ Well Equipped Four Bedroomed Mews House
- ◆ Reception Hall
- ◆ Cloakroom
- ◆ Lounge & Dining Room
- ◆ Kitchen
- ◆ Three First Floor Bedrooms
- ◆ Family Bathroom and En-Suite Shower Room
- ◆ Second Floor Bedroom with En-Suite and Dressing Room
- ◆ Private Garden at Rear
- ◆ Garage
- ◆ Gas Fired Central Heating
- ◆ Fully Double Glazed

Move In With 5% Deposit & 75% Mortgage.



Well Equipped Four Bedroom Mews House
PRICE: £234,950 FREEHOLD
EPC Rating B (82)
www.rightmove.co.uk - Search: WS12 4BN

VIEW HOME AVAILABLE BY APPOINTMENT
CALL 01922 410600 TO ARRANGE A VIEWING

89 AVON ROAD, CANNOCK

NO CHAIN

IMPROVED FLAT LOCATED IN POPULAR POSITION Convenient For Facilities at Cannock Town Centre

- ◆ Entrance lobby and store room
- ◆ Garden/off road parking
- ◆ Landing
- ◆ Lounge
- ◆ Kitchen
- ◆ Bedroom
- ◆ Bath room
- ◆ Gas fired central heating
- ◆ Part double glazed
- ◆ EPC rating D (66)
- ◆ £86,950

14 BRINDLEY BANK ROAD, RUGELEY

£215,000 FREEHOLD

INDIVIDUALLY DESIGNED TWO BEDROOMED DETACHED BUNGALOW Located In Popular Cul-De-Sac

- ◆ Reception hall
- ◆ Gardens and off road parking
- ◆ Lounge
- ◆ Dining kitchen
- ◆ Two double bedrooms
- ◆ Ensuite shower room
- ◆ Bath room
- ◆ Gas fired central heating
- ◆ Heating
- ◆ Fully double glazed
- ◆ EPC rating B (81)



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Rake End, Rugeley

- FOUR BEDROOMS
- OPEN PLAN KITCHEN/DINING ROOM
- L SHAPED KITCHEN
- FAMILY BATHROOM
- THREE STOREY
- PARTIALLY DOUBLE GLAZED
- GAS CENTRAL HEATING

Shropshire Brook Road, Rugeley

- SPACIOUS FAMILY HOME
- NEW KITCHEN
- TWO RECEPTION ROOMS
- OFFICE/PLAYROOM
- FOUR BEDROOMS
- BATHROOM
- EN-SUITE
- POPULAR LOCATION

Hood Lane, Rugeley

- Spacious Design
- The Croft Primary School Catchment Area
- Semi-Rural location
- Garage to Rear
- Conservatory
- Ideal family Home

Park View Terrace, Rugeley

- THREE BEDROOMS
- GAS CENTRAL HEATED
- DOUBLE GLAZED
- REAR GARDEN AND PARKING
- DOWNTAIRS W.C.
- IDEAL FIRST HOME
- VIEWING ESSENTIAL
- IDEAL TO LET OUT

Wellfield Road, Burton-On-Trent

- EXTENDED DETACHED HOUSE
- THREE BEDROOMS
- DOWNSTAIRS SHOWER ROOM
- TWO RECEPTION ROOMS
- DINING KITCHEN
- FAMILY BATHROOM
- DETACHED GARAGE
- GAS C. HEATED

Scholars Gate, Burntwood

- THREE BEDROOMS
- DINING ROOM
- KITCHEN
- LIVING
- BATHROOM
- GARAGE
- TWO PARKING SPACES
- GAS CENTRAL HEATING

Greyhound close, Burntwood

- Brand New Semi Detached Property
- Kitchen and Guest w.c
- 3 Bed House (En Suite to Master)
- Select to Buy Available
- Select Development of just 7 properties
- Living/Dining Room with patio doors
- 10 Year Buildzone Warranty
- Gas Central Heating, uPVC Double Glazing

Sheep Fair, Rugeley

- FREEHOLD FLAT
- IDEAL INVESTMENT
- OFF ROAD PARKING
- OVERLOOKING PARK
- SPACIOUS BEHIND
- LARGELY DOUBLE GLAZED



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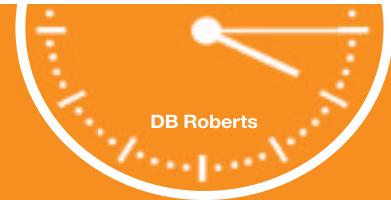


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RICS

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SALES

South Close Cannock

£190,000

- Two Bedroom Bungalow • Pleasant Cul De Sac Location
- Easy Reach to Cannock Centre • Lounge Diner
- No Chain & Must Be Viewed • EPC = E

Peterborough Drive

£270,000

- Four bedroom detached house • Conservatory
- Downstairs WC • Garage & Driveway
- Rear garden • EPC = TBC

Hill Street Hednesford

£249,995

- Four bedroom detached house • Downstairs WC
- Two reception rooms & kitchen • Driveway & garage
- Mature rear garden • EPC = D

Queens Road Calf Heath

£330,000

- Three bedroom detached house • Village location
- Two Kitchens • Extended to the rear
- Mature rear garden • EPC = G

Swan Close Cheslyn Hay

£270,000

- Detached Family Home • Four Bedrooms
- Two Reception Rooms • Extended Kitchen
- En Suite to Master • Driveway for off Street Parking

Boston Close Heath Hayes

£152,500

- Three Bedroom Semi Detached House • Kitchen Diner
- Modern Bathroom with Bath & Shower • Utility Area
- Paved Rear Garden for Off Street Parking • EPC = D

Norton East Road Norton Canes

£230,000

- Unique One Off Build • Three Bedroom Detached House
- Three Reception Rooms • Detached Garage & Driveway
- Rear Garden • EPC = TBC

Deal Avenue Burntwood

£85,000

- First Floor Flat • Two Bedrooms
- Lounge / Dining Room • Gas Central Heating
- Rear Garden & Garage • EPC = D

New Road Burntwood

£154,995

- Semi Detached House • Two Bedrooms
- Two Reception Rooms • Downstairs WC
- Fitted Kitchen • Enclosed Rear Garden

Elmwood Close Cannock

£180,000

- Four Bedroom Semi Detached • En Suite To The Master
- Open Plan Kitchen Diner • Lounge
- Cul-de-Sac Position • Garage & Driveway

Cygnet Close Hednesford

£74,000

- One Bedroom Apartment • First Floor
- Allocated Parking • Open Plan Living / Dining Room
- Electric Stroage Heaters • EPC = D

New Penkridge Road Cannock

£250,000

- Three Bedroom Detached • Kitchen & Seperate Utility
- Integral Garage • Driveway
- Garden To The Rear • EPC = E

Limepit Lane Huntington

£290,000

- Detached Dormer Bungalow • High Quality Throughout
- 15ft Lounge & Guest WC • Double Bedroom with En Suite
- Two First Floor Double Bedrooms • EPC = C

Langholm Drive Heath Hayes

£180,000

- Three Bed Semi-Detached • Garage & Driveway
- South Facing Rear Garden • Downstairs WC
- Open Plan Lounge Diner & Conservatory • EPC = C

Lingfield Road Norton Canes

£169,995

- Superbly Presented Semi Detached • Lounge & Dining Room
- Guest WC & Ensuite Shower Room • Three Bedrooms
- Detached Garage & Cul De Sac Location • EPC = D

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CANNOCK WOLVERHAMPTON ROAD

NEW

- Much improved Two bedroomed
- OFF ROAD PARKING
- Two reception rooms
- Newly fitted kitchen
- Family bathroom
- Utility/guest wc
- NO CHAIN
- Must be viewed
- EPC rating D

£145,000

HEATH HAYES ACORN CLOSE

NEW

- A three bedroom property
- Gas central heating and double glazed
- Lounge, refitted kitchen/diner
- Three bedrooms
- Family bathroom
- Gardens front and rear
- Off road parking
- Ideal first time buy
- EPC rating C

£134,950

HEATH HAYES HEATH WAY

NEW

- A two bedroom property
- Gas central heating and double glazing
- Lounge, kitchen/diner
- Two bedrooms
- Family bathroom
- Gardens front and rear
- Off road parking
- Ideal first time buy
- EPC rating C

£124,950

NORTON CANES HEDNESFORD ROAD

NEW

- A three bedroom detached
- Large plot of land
- Gas central heating and double glazing
- Lounge, dining room
- Kitchen, bathroom
- Three bedrooms
- Land to rear, stables
- Awaiting EPC rating

£250,000

HEDNESFORD MEADOWLARK CLOSE

NEW

- A 1/2 bedroom bungalow
- Large corner plot
- Gas central heating and double glazing
- Lounge, dining area
- Refitted kitchen, conservatory
- Refitted bathroom
- Enclosed rear garden, driveway
- Side garden, NO CHAIN
- EPC Rating D

£175,000

CANNOCK RUMER HILL ROAD

- A spacious three bedroom detached
- Split level lounge/diner
- Kitchen/diner
- Guest cloakroom and utility
- Sitting room and conservatory
- Family bathroom
- Garden to rear, garage and driveway
- Awaiting EPC rating

£249,950

HEATH HAYES FIRECREST CLOSE

- A spacious four bedroom detached
- Gas central heating and double glazing
- Lounge and dining room
- Kitchen/diner, guest cloakroom
- Master bedroom with en suite
- Three further bedrooms
- Family bathroom
- Garden to rear, driveway
- Garage, awaiting EPC rating

£259,950

HEDNESFORD ANGLESEY COURT

- First floor 1 bedroom apartment
- Modern fitted kitchen
- Modern fitted bathroom
- Lounge, Study/Storage
- Garage, Allocated parking
- Good Location
- Intercom Entrance
- Must be Viewed
- EPC rating D

£110,000

HEDNESFORD STAFFORD LANE

- A unique 3 bedroom bungalow
- Gas central heating and double glazing
- Lounge, Kitchen
- Dining room
- Three bedrooms
- Bathroom
- Good sized rear garden
- Driveway
- Awaiting EPC rating

£155,000

HEATH HAYES PARTRIDGE CLOSE

- A modern two bedroom property
- Gas central heating and double glazing
- Lounge, kitchen
- Family bathroom
- Two bedrooms
- Garden to rear
- Off road parking
- Ideal first time buy
- EPC rating C

£129,995

HEATH HAYES CHARLOCK GROVE

- Three bedroom detached
- Lounge, Conservatory
- Fitted Kitchen
- Fitted Bathroom
- Guest WC
- Garage & Driveway
- Gas central heated
- NO CHAIN
- Awaiting EPC rating

£209,995

HEATH HAYES SALISBURY DRIVE

- A much improved 3 bedroom house
- Gas central heating and double glazing
- Lounge, refitted kitchen/diner
- Conservatory
- Three bedrooms
- Refitted modern bathroom
- Front and rear gardens
- Garage
- EPC rating C

£209,995

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PROPERTY



Three-bedroomed semi-detached property with well stocked gardens is on the market for £159,950

A well maintained three-bedroomed semi-detached property, 24 Hawthorne Road, Cheslyn Hay, lies in a popular residential area.

It is for sale through Boot & Son at £159,950.

It has a porch, an entrance lobby, a lounge/dining area, a half tiled kitchen, inner lobby, three bedrooms, a part tiled bathroom, garage, built-in store and well stocked gardens.

CHESLYN HAY
£159,950

In more detail the lounge/dining area has an Adam-style feature fire surround having composite marble hearth and inset with natural flame gas fire. The half tiled kitchen has plumbing for an automatic washing machine, an electric built-in oven, gas hob, and an oven hood.

Upstairs, of the three bedrooms,

bedroom one has built-in wardrobes and a dresser with drawers.

The bathroom has a white suite with chrome fittings.

The well-stocked gardens incorporate a paved terrace, decorative gravelled areas, ornamental trees and shrubs, circular paved patio, side paved/gated pedestrian access. There is a double width block pavilion driveway.

Call 01543 505454.



Traditional family house enjoys a sought-after location close to all local amenities, shops and schools

In a sought-after location, this traditional family home in Old Town Lane, Pelsall, near Walsall, is for sale through Webbs at offers over £120,000.

This well-presented traditional home is situated in a popular location, being close to all local amenities, shops and schools.

The accommodation briefly comprises a lounge/diner, kitchen, a bathroom and two double bedrooms. Externally, there are

integrated oven, hob with extractor hood over and ample appliance space. The downstairs bathroom has a panel bath with a shower over, vanity sink and low-level WC with tiling to bathing areas.

Bedroom one overlooks the frontage while bedroom two overlooks the rear.

In more detail the lounge/diner has windows to the front, a feature fireplace, a door to an inner lobby and stairs to the first floor.

The kitchen has wall, base and drawer units, work surfaces over, an

For further information, or to book a viewing call the selling agents, Webbs, on 01922 663399 or visit www.webbsestateagents.co.uk



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Burntwood 01543 686444
1 Lichfield Road, Burntwood WS7 0HQ

paulcarresteagents.co.uk

Great Wyrley Office - £380,000



GREAT WYRLEY, STATION ROAD

- Impressive detached property
- One bedroom annexe
- Good sized overall plot
- 3 receptions, guest WC

4 █
3 █
E █

Great Wyrley Office - Offers Over £350,000



GREAT WYRLEY, HILTON LANE

- Tastefully Extended Detached House
- Generous Plot
- Master Bedroom with En-Suite
- Integral Double Garage

4 █
3 █
C █

Burntwood Office - £320,000



BURNTWOOD, MACADAM CLOSE

- En Suite To Master
- Conservatory
- Rural Views To Front Aspect
- Private Cul-De-Sac Location

4 █
2 █
D █

Great Wyrley Office - £265,000



CHESLYN HAY, BROOK ROAD

- Superb Detached House
- Prime Location
- En-Suite To Master
- Garage

4 █
2 █
C █

Great Wyrley Office - £250,000



HEDNESFORD, CORSICAN DRIVE

- Detached Residence
- Corner Position
- Generous Plot
- Double Garage

Burntwood Office - £239,950



HEDNESFORD, ST GEORGE DRIVE

- Finished To A High Standard
- En-Suite To Master
- Utility & Guest W.C.
- Garage

Burntwood Office - £235,000



BURNTWOOD, PRINCESS STREET

- Detached Residence
- En-Suite To Master Bedroom
- Refitted Kitchen & Bathroom
- Garage

3 █
2 █
C █

Burntwood Office - £229,950



LICHFIELD, FRANCIS ROAD

- Detached House
- Refitted Kitchen & Bathroom
- Garage
- No Upward Chain

3 █
1 █
D █

Great Wyrley Office - £225,000



GREAT WYRLEY, QUINTON AVENUE

- Immaculate 3 Bedroom Bungalow
- Modernised to a high standard
- Conservatory
- No Upward Chain

Burntwood Office - £215,000



LICHFIELD, CHAPEL LANE

- Delightful period mid terrace residence
- Ideal first time buyer
- Through lounge/dining room

Burntwood Office - £165,000



CANNOCK, HAREBELL CLOSE

- Extended Semi-Detached House
- Lounge/Diner
- Extended Kitchen
- Off Road Parking

3 █
1 █
C █

Great Wyrley Office - £129,950



CHESLYN HAY, COPPICE LANE

- Mid-terraced period property
- Lounge, dining room
- Two Double bedrooms
- No upward chain

2 █
1 █
E █



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NEW

● JR Properties are pleased to offer for sale this superbly presented detached bungalow in a popular location. Having the benefit of NO UPWARD CHAIN the property features hallway, lounge, fitted kitchen, two bedrooms, refitted shower room, detached garage and well maintained gardens. Viewing essential

£189,950

Watkiss Drive, Rugeley

NEW

£144,950



● JR Properties are pleased to market this three bedroom semi detached family home, situated in a sought after location. Having Porch, Lounge and Breakfast Kitchen. Landing to Three Bedrooms and Bathroom. Gardens to front and rear with driveway to Detached Garage



MUST BE VIEWED

£165,000

● JR Properties are pleased to market this extended four bedroom semi detached home, situated on a corner plot. Having Hallway, Lounge, Breakfast Kitchen, Dining Room, Inner Hallway to Shower Room and Bedroom Four. Landing to Three Bedrooms and Bathroom. Gardens to front and rear with plentiful parking



MUST BE VIEWED

£135,000

● JR Properties are pleased to offer for sale this well presented three bedroom semi detached home, situated close to local amenities. Accommodation having Hallway, Lounge and Breakfast Kitchen. Landing, Three Bedrooms and Refitted Bathroom. Gardens to front and rear with Detached Garage with parking



NEW

£249,950

● JR Properties are pleased to offer for sale this detached traditional bungalow situated on a large garden plot offering lots of potential and scope for improvement/development (all subject to planning). Offered with No Upward Chain the bungalow requires modernisation and features double glazing and gas central heating.

“Serving Rugeley and its Villages”



NEW

£425,000



● JR Distinctive Homes are pleased to offer for sale this superbly well presented three bedroom detached dormer bungalow, with open aspect to rear. Having Entrance Hallway, Downstairs Bathroom, Lounge, Breakfast Kitchen, Utility, Conservatory, Snug and Bedroom Three. Landing to Master Bedroom with En Suite and Further Bedroom. Driveway to Front and



NEW

£105,000

● JR Properties are pleased to offer for sale this one bedroom terraced bungalow, being offered with NO UPWARD CHAIN. Accommodation having Entrance Hallway, Shower Room, Lounge, Fitted Kitchen and Bedroom. Gardens to front and rear with on road parking



MUST BE VIEWED

£212,000

● JR Properties are pleased to offer to market this three / four bedroom detached family home, situated in a quiet cul de sac. Having Hallway, Lounge, Breakfast Kitchen, Utility, Guest w.c and Play Room /Bedroom Four. Landing to Three Bedrooms and Bathroom. Driveway and Gardens to front and rear



NEW

£164,950

● JR Properties are pleased to offer for sale this three bedroom link detached home, being offered with NO UPWARD CHAIN. Having Porch, Lounge, Breakfast Kitchen and Utility Room. Landing to Three bedrooms and Bathroom. Driveway to Garage and Garden to rear

www.jrpropertiesstaffs.com
25B Horsefair, Rugeley, Staffordshire, WS15 2EJ



T: 01889 577731

E: enquiries@jrpropertiesstaffs.com

Green Lane, Rugeley



NEW

£195,000

- JR Properties are pleased to offer for sale this well presented three bedroom detached home, close to local amenities. Having Entrance Hallway, Lounge, Dining Room, Fitted Kitchen and Conservatory. Landing to Three Bedrooms and Bathroom. Driveway for several vehicles and Garden to rear

Crabtree Avenue, Hawksyard



NEW

£127,500

- JR Properties are pleased to offer for sale this detached coach house, ideal for First Time Buyers or Investor. Having Entrance Hallway, Landing to Two Bedrooms, Bathroom and Open Plan Lounge / Breakfast Kitchen. Driveway to Garage and Garden to rear

St Anthony's Close, Rugeley



NEW
PRICE

£189,950

- JR Properties are pleased to offer for sale this three bedroom link detached home, located in a quiet cul de sac, close to town centre. Being offered with NO UPWARD CHAIN and having Porch, Hallway, Lounge/Dining Room and Fitted Kitchen. Landing, Three Bedrooms and Bathroom. Gardens and Driveway to Garage

Bagnall Way, Hawksyard



SOLD

£174,950

- JR Properties are pleased to offer for sale this modern three bedroom end terraced home, on the sought after Hawksyard Estate. Having Entrance Hallway, Guest w.c., Lounge, Breakfast Kitchen and Conservatory. Landing to Bedroom with En Suite, Two further Bedrooms and Bathroom. Driveway and Garden

Antler Drive, Etching Hill



NEW
PRICE

£229,995

- JR Properties are pleased to market this well presented three bedroom detached family home, in a sought after location. Having Entrance Hallway, Lounge, Dining Room and Fitted Kitchen. Landing to Three Bedrooms, Bathroom and Separate W.C. Driveway to Garage and Gardens to front and rear

Wetherall Close, Rugeley



NEW

£185,000

- JR Properties are pleased to market this well presented three bedroom detached home, being offered with NO UPWARD CHAIN. Having Entrance Hallway, Lounge, Breakfast Kitchen and Conservatory. Landing to Three Bedrooms and Bathroom. Off road parking to Garage and Garden to rear

Talbot Street, Rugeley



SOLD

£239,950

- A traditional 1920's detached property situated in town centre location with good sized garden to rear. Accommodation comprises Entrance Hallway, Two Reception Rooms and Refitted Kitchen. Landing, Three Bedrooms and Refitted Bathroom. Driveway to Garage and Utility Room. Gardens to front and rear.

Bridle Walk, Etching Hill



STAR
BUY

£185,000

- JR Properties are pleased to offer for sale this two bedroom detached bungalow, situated in a quiet cul de sac location. Having Hallway, Fitted Kitchen, Lounge, Inner Lobby, Two Bedrooms Conservatory and Shower Room. Gardens to front and rear with Driveway to Garage. NO UPWARD CHAIN

Hednesford Road, Rugeley



NEW
PRICE

£244,950

- JR Properties are pleased to market this traditional three bedroom detached home, offered with NO UPWARD CHAIN. Having Porch, Entrance Hallway, Shower Room, Two Reception Rooms and Breakfast Kitchen. Landing to Three Bedrooms and Refitted Bathroom. Driveway to Garage and Good sized Garden to rear

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Rushmoor, Telford, TF6 5EF
3 Bedroom cottage. NO CHAIN.
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3 bedroom semi-detached with garage.

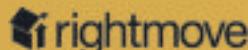


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The Chronicle Thursday, July 6, 2017

Railway Court, Norton Canes



NEW

Offers Around £45,000

Well Presented Apartment	Kitchen
Two Bedrooms	45% Shared Ownership
Lounge	EPC B

Grindcobbe Grove, Rugeley



NEW

Offers Around £120,000

Terrace Property	Modern Kitchen
Three Bedrooms	Parking to Rear
Large Living Room	EPC D

Teddesley Way, Huntington



REDUCED

Offers Around £130,000

Terred Property	Kitchen
Two Bedrooms	Conservatory
Lounge	EPC D

Ashdale Close, Huntington



REDUCED

OIEO £135,000

Semi Detached Property	Conservatory & Garage
Two Bedrooms	NO CHAIN
Good Potential	EPC C

Blake Close, Cannock



NEW

Offers Around £149,995

Semi Detached Property	Conservatory
Three Bedrooms	Off Road Parking
Lounge	EPC D

York Road, Cannock



NEW

Offers Around £150,000

Semi Detached Property	Kitchen
Three Bedrooms	Rear Garden
Lounge	Awaiting EPC

Norton East Road, Norton Canes



Offers Around £150,000

Semi Detached Property	Kitchen / Diner
Three Bedrooms	Rear Garden
Lounge	EPC D

Horseshoe Drive, Cannock



Offers Around £150,000

End Terrace Property	Lounge
Three Bedrooms	Allocated Parking
Kitchen	EPC C

Bath Road, Cannock



Offers Around £160,000

Semi Detached Property	Extension to Rear
Three Double Bedrooms	Quiet Corner Plot
Luxury Kitchen	EPC D

Greenwood Park, Hednesford



REDUCED

Offers Around £165,000

Semi Detachd Property	Garage
Three Bedrooms	NO CHAIN
Lounge / Diner	EPC D

Forge Close, Churchbridge



Offers Around £165,000

Semi Detached Property	Popular Location
Three Bedrooms	No Chain
Side Garage	Awaiting EPC

Midhurst Drive, Hednesford



Offers Around £184,950

Detached Property	Conservatory
Three bedrooms	Garage
Kitchen/Diner	EPC D

Badgers Way, Heath Hayes



REDUCED

Offers Around £190,000

Link Detached Property	Kitchen
Three Bedrooms	Conservatory
Lounge	EPC D

REDUCED

Offers Around £195,000

Link Detached Property	Kitchen
Three Bedrooms	Garage
Lounge	EPC D

Hill Street, Hednesford



NEW

Offers Around £200,000

Detached Property	Kitchen
Three Bedrooms	Conservatory
Lounge	EPC D

Shaws Lane, Great Wyrley



Offers Around £200,000

Detached Property	Traditional Kitchen
Three Bedrooms	Rear Garden
Lounge	EPC D

Rugeley Road, Armitage



REDUCED

Offers Around £260,000

Detached Property	Kitchen
Three Bedrooms	Rear Garden
Lounge	EPC B

REDUCED

Offers Around £275,000

Four Apartments	Parking To Rear
Good Sized Living Area	Frehold Investment
Fully occupied rent £19,440 p/a	EPC D

Canterbury Drive, Rugeley



NEW

Offers Around £300,000

Detached Property	Conservatory
Four Bedrooms	Viewing Highly Recommended
Kitchen Diner	EPC C

High Street, Wheaton Aston



NEW

Offers Around £300,000

Semi Detached Property	Conservatory
Four Bedrooms	Detached Garage
Three Reception Rooms	EPC E

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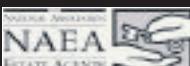
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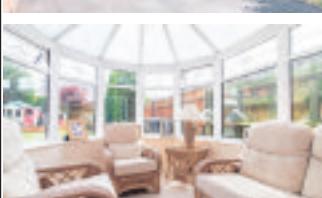
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<p>HEDNESFORD COPPERKINS ROAD</p>     <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Generous Plot • Hallway • Lounge • Stunning Kitchen/Diner • Utility Room • 3 Bedrooms • Refitted Bathroom • Gardens • Viewing Essential <p>\$185,000</p>	<p>CHESLYN HAY HIGHFIELDS PARK</p>     <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Detached Family Home • Sought After Location • Through Hallway • 2 Reception Rooms • Ensuite to Master • Breakfast Kitchen • Utility Room • Guest WC • 4 Bedrooms • Ensuite to Master • INTERNAL VIEWING ESSENTIAL! <p>\$375,000</p>
<p>CHESLYN HAY COPPICE CLOSE</p>     <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Semi Detached • 3 Reception Rooms • Extended Kitchen • En-suite • Dressing Room • 4 Bedrooms • Refitted Bathroom • Driveway • Garage <p>\$195,000</p>	<p>HEDNESFORD ST THOMAS DRIVE</p>     <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4 Bed Detached • Close to Cannock • 3 Reception Rooms • Breakfast Kitchen • Utility, WC • En-Suite • Bathroom • Rear Garden • Driveway <p>\$250,000</p>
<p>HEATH HAYES STRAUSS DRIVE</p>     <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Modern Detached • 2 Reception Rooms • Conservatory • 3 Bedrooms • En-Suite Shower Room • Bathroom • Garage • Rear Garden • Viewing Recommend <p>\$230,000</p>	<p>CHESLYN HAY HAWKS CLOSE</p>     <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extended Semi • Lounge/Diner • REFITTED Kitchen • Guests WC • 4 Bedrooms • Refitted Bathroom • Rear Garden • Garage, Driveway • Viewing Recommended <p>\$210,000</p>

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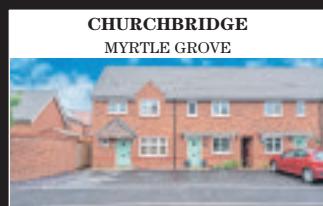


NORTON CANES
CHURCH ROAD



- Traditional Property
- Through Lounge/Diner
- Kitchen
- 3 Bedrooms

\$180,000 Offers In the Region



CHURCHBRIDGE
MYRTLE GROVE

- Modern House
- Hall, Guests WC
- Lounge
- Kitchen/Diner
- 3 Bedrooms
- En-Suite
- Bathroom
- Rear Garden

\$180,000



- Bathroom
- Enclosed Rear Garden
- Block Paved Driveway



CHURCHBRIDGE
LEACROFT LANE

- Entrance,
- Lounge
- Dining Room w
- Kitchen.
- Two Double
- Bathrooms
- Refitted Family
- Bathroom.

\$160,000



HEDNESFORD
ANGLESEY STREET



- Deceptively Spacious
- First Floor Apartment
- Hall, Lounge
- Refitted Kitchen



- Refitted Bathroom
- Double Bedroom
- Communal Garden
- No Chain

\$110,000



HEATH HAYES
CAPERCAILLIE DRIVE

- 3 Bed Town House
- Popular Location
- Lounge/Diner
- Kitchen
- 3 Bedrooms
- Bathroom
- No Chain

\$165,000



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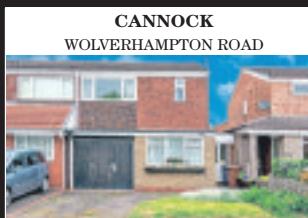
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HUT HILL LANE

- Stunning Bungalow
- Totally Refurbished
- 2 Large Reception Rooms
- 3 Double Bedrooms
- Family Bathroom
- Large Breakfast Kitchen

\$425,000



CANNOCK
WOLVERHAMPTON ROAD

- 3 Bed Semi
- Lounge
- Kitchen
- Shower Room
- Garage
- Rear Garden
- Driveway
- Integral Garage

\$150,000

- £ Free Valuation
- 📷 Free Professional Photos
- 📍 Free Rightmove & Zoopla Listing
- ★ Plus Much More



PENKridge
PILLATON HOUSE

- First Floor
- Village Location
- Lounge
- Kitchen
- 2 Bedrooms
- En-Suite
- Bathroom
- NO CHAIN

\$149,000

HEDNESFORD
RAYDEN COURT

- Grd Floor Apartment
- Communal Hall
- Open-Plan Lounge
- Dining Kitchen
- 2 Bedrooms
- Bathroom
- NO CHAIN

\$75,000

CANNOCK
SOUTH CLOSE

- Detached Bungalow
- Lounge
- Kitchen
- 2 Bedrooms
- Bathroom
- Garage
- Driveway

\$269,995

- Hallway, Lounge, Kitchen Diner, and En-Suite, Guest WC, Three Bedrooms, Utility, WC, 2 Reception Rooms, Garage, Refitted, Refitted Bathroom

\$199,950



HEDNESFORD
HILL STREET

- 4 Bed Detached
- Hallway
- 2 Reception Rooms
- Refitted
- Kitchen/Diner
- Utility, WC
- Garage
- Refitted Bathroom

\$249,950



CHURCHBRIDGE
FORGE CLOSE

- Entrance Hallway, Guest WC, Dining Room, Spacious
- Kitchen Diner, 1st Floor Lounge, Bedroom Three, Master Bedroom

OFFERS OVER \$165,000

* terms and conditions apply

Burnips Road
ESSINGTON



Lovingly restored five bedroom grade II listed detached cottage / Situated on approximately two acres of land / Retained many of its original features

£950,000

Station Street
CHESLYN HAY



Spacious six bedroom Victorian character property / Set on a large & extremely private plot / Superb separate annexe / Driveway with ample parking for several vehicles

Offers in Excess of £550,000

Littleworth Road
RAWNSLEY



Five bedroom detached family home / NO UPWARD CHAIN / Breakfast kitchen / Drive for more than ten vehicles / Enclosed rear garden / EPC: C

Offers in Excess of £420,000

Chaseley Road
RUGELEY



Four bed luxury detached house / Kitchen-breakfast area / Integral garage / En-suite to master / Block drive for several vehicles

£419,950

The Old Rectory
RUGELEY



Immaculately Presented Five Bedroom Barn Style Property / Sought After Village Location / Spacious Reception & Bedrooms / Delightful Countryside Views / High Spec Kitchen With Integrated Appliances

Offers in Excess of £394,950

The Meadows
CANNOCK



Executive Five Bedroom Detached Family Home / Large Reception Style Conservatory / Finished To A High Specification Throughout / Stunning Open Plan Dining Kitchen / Five Double Bedrooms

Offers in Excess of £360,000

Meerash Lane
HAMMERWICH



Immaculately Presented Four Bedroom Semi Detached House / Finished To A High Standard Throughout / Sought After Village Location / Substantial Corner Plot

£350,000

Adelaide Drive
WIMBLEBURY



Immaculately presented five bedroom detached family home / Finished to a high modern standard throughout / Superb open plan high spec kitchen-diner / Driveway providing ample parking

Offers in the Region Of £335,000

St Christopher Close
RAWNSLEY



Immaculately presented four bedroom detached family home / Enviable corner plot in quiet cul-de-sac / Tastefully decorated & finished to high modern standard / Driveway for up to six vehicles /

£295,000

Sycamore Hill
CANNOCK WOOD



Three bedroom detached bungalow / no onward chain / Modern fitted kitchen-diner / Victorian style conservatory / Charming well maintained private rear garden

Offers in Excess of £285,000

Park Gate Road
CANNOCK WOOD



Well presented three bedroom detached bungalow / Set on good sized plot / Spacious living room & further good sized kitchen-diner / En-suite to master / Newly fitted combination boiler / Parking for at least four vehicles

Offers in the Region Of £279,000

Slitting Mill Road
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- Double Glazing
- Allocated Parking
- Energy Rating C

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- One Bed House
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- Double Glazing
- Allocated Parking
- Energy Rating D

£425 pcm

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- Energy Rating D

£425 pcm

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- Allocated

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- Lounge, Kitchen
- GCH/DG
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£600 pcm

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- Three Bed Semi
- Lounge, Kitchen
- Guest WC
- Utility, E-Suite
- Bathroom
- GCH & DG
- Garden & Drive

£780 pcm

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VIEWING ESSENTIAL

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- Two Reception Rooms
- Breakfast Kitchen
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£120,000 No Chain

WOLVERHAMPTON ROAD, CANNOCK



- A Well Presented Semi Det House
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- Kitchen
- Utility Area & Guest WC
- Two Double Bedrooms
- Bathroom
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£119,950 No Chain

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£110,000



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A strong contender among city cars

By Jack Evans

The Skoda Citigo is about as no-frills a car as you can get today. It's designed for urban drivers who need a practical but compact way of getting around, as well as for those who don't want to pay the earth in running costs. The original car did this to a tee and now it's been updated for 2017.

What does that mean? Well, the exterior – which was never bad looking in the first place – has been treated to a reshaped front grille and modified bumper as well as daytime running lights. There's also a jazzy new colour – Kiwi Green – which stands out against the plethora of grey and black hues currently on the road today.

Inside, you now get a redesigned instrument cluster while a new infotainment system gives clearer control over the DAB digital radio and media options. There's even a multifunction steering wheel available – though this is an optional extra.

The previous-generation Citigo was a good-looking little car and thankfully Skoda has only improved the package. The previously mentioned daytime running lights give it a little more presence on the road, while redesigned 15-inch alloy wheels fill the Citigo's arches nicely. The all-new Kiwi Green colour looks great on the car too – though it's sure to divide opinion.

The Citigo's interior has a quality to it that you'd expect from cars double its price. Everything feels exceptionally well put together, and though there are some harder plastics to be found, you need to remember that they're in a car which can be bought for a shade under £9,000.

It's impressive, just as it was in the original,



The Skoda Citigo, in Kiwi Green

while the variety of Skoda 'Simply Clever' features – an umbrella under the front passenger seat and a fold-out bag hook on the handle of the glove compartment, for instance – only add to the interior's quality.

Given that the Citigo measures just 3,597mm (a Ford Fiesta is 3,969mm, for context) then you wouldn't expect to find much in the way of practicality. The reality couldn't be further from the truth. In five-door layout, like our test car, there's 251 litres of seats-up boot space, rising to 959 litres with them folded down. It has a split floor too, giving a far more flexible storage solution.

Front seat passengers get plenty of leg and headroom, while those in the back are – surprisingly – equally well catered for. Of course, taller passengers may struggle in terms of headroom, but occupants of average height will be more than comfortable sat in the rear of the Citigo.

In the modern motoring age of driving assists and autonomous steering, the Citigo offers a driving experience that is nothing short of refreshing. There haven't been any



The new model doesn't lose any of the great features previous models had

mechanical changes made to this car over the previous model, which means that it drives just as well as it did.

The steering is light but communicative, while the five-speed manual gearbox has a decent action. The engine needs to be worked hard at times – especially when tackling steep gradients – but for most of the time it's settled and refined – something you wouldn't expect from a three-cylinder petrol engine.

It's a basic driving experience, that's for sure, but that doesn't stop it from being an

enjoyable one. And if you're after a car that is happier doing longer miles, then the more powerful engine is the one to go for.

If you want a Citigo with all the bells and whistles – think dark privacy glass and heated seats – then that's exactly what you can get in the £11,325 Monte Carlo-edition car. In truth though, we'd recommend going for a more base-spec Citigo, as it lies closer to the car's no-frills mentality than the more equipment-laden models.

The SE model is the pick of the bunch

in our eyes, offering air conditioning, rear folding seats and an infotainment system with Bluetooth connectivity and six speakers for £9,635 for the 59bhp, three-door model. It also remains a very good car for first-time drivers thanks to its Group 2 insurance rating.

The Citigo is ideal for drivers who want a car that isn't festooned with technology, and one which doesn't cost all that much to run. As mentioned earlier, it's also a great choice for just-passed motorists who are looking to keep insurance premiums to a minimum.



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Honda 'driving machine' packs a punch

By Ian Donaldson

DON'T tell BMW, but someone has pinched its famous boast; buy one and you'll have the 'ultimate driving machine'.

The cheeky interloper is Honda, more specifically the company's latest, hottest, brashest, loudest version of the Civic Type R.

And there on a presentation screen at the press drive event in BMW's homeland were the three words that the 169mph Civic wants to take as its own.

But, you ask, is 320 horsepower and a deeply serious approach to building this winged, spoiled and extravagantly vented Type R enough to deserve any of that trio of well used words?

Quite probably; there is no denying its performance potential and Honda has the video to prove it.

Around the notoriously unforgiving Nürburgring race track, long considered too dangerous for grand prix cars but now a stretch of tortuous tarmac for everyone to hire at 25 euros a lap.

The latest Type R polished off the 14.1 miles in 7mins 43.8secs to claim a record for any front-wheel drive production car. If you're the sort of youngish thruster who might sell his mother for a down payment on a new one, this time matters. A lot.

Other rivals – the likes of the Ford Focus RS and Volkswagen's Golf R – are also no slouches round the Ring but the Type R is unarguably in the mix now. It is also, by a useful margin, less expensive than either of them.

You can have the hottest Honda hatch for £30,995 but nearly everyone will find another £2,000 for the GT model, which comes with goodies including satellite navigation, dual zone climate control, wireless charging pad, 11 speaker sound system and a clutch of added safety features like blind spot warning and cross traffic monitor which keeps watch as you reverse from a parking space.

None of these features are fundamental to the nature of the beast that is the new Type R. And at its beating heart is a modestly reworked version of the 2.0 litre engine from the old car, forcing 320 metric horses (up to

horsepower) through its front wheels, now wrapped in larger alloys and carrying wider, super sticky tyres.

Thank a turbocharger for giving the Type R the sort of mid-range back shove you might be pleased with in a junior Lamborghini and enough to max out at 169mph, not approached on an unrestricted but busy stretch of autobahn, with this driver finding the brake pedal as the speedo eagerly chased its way to double the UK motorway limit.

The hot RS from Ford manages 165mph and is usefully faster to 62mph than the Honda (4.7 seconds plays 5.7 seconds) but it feels less ferocious, which may not be a virtue in this type of machine.

Magic

The £33,500 Golf R is also quicker to the magic 62mph than the newcomer, posting a 4.7 seconds time but its top speed is electronically limited to a 'mere' 155mph. It also feels more mature and less exciting to drive, and might well appeal to a rather different sort of enthusiast.

Buying the Honda will save you a PCP payment (£299 monthly on a three-year contract) thanks to lower exhaust emissions, with a £500 first year tax hit versus £800 for the Ford and VV (actual CO₂ readings are 170/175/180g/km).

You won't buy any of these hottest hatches to worry about fuel economy, but for the record the Honda is officially best at 38.7mpg with the Golf next at 37.7mpg and the Ford trailing with 36.7mpg. None will approach that on the road, of course, let alone if let loose on a circuit track day.

But back to the bits that might make you badly want a four-door Civic Type R parked outside the house, raring to head for a track or deserted mountain pass high in the Alps.

We've looked at the engine, but the engineers have been equally thorough in every other go-faster aspect of this Swindon-built superhatch.

So, the brakes are big and made by Brembo, the go-to name for superior stopping power. A little larger than before, they took several laps of the many cornered EuroSpeedway without complaint, as did the specially developed

HONDA CIVIC TYPE R GT, £32,995



Put away £33,000 for the Honda, which will really zoom up to 62mph

Continental tyres with rubber as clingy as a needy child in a strop.

There are now three driving modes, from comfort (which did a decent job of taming the ride on Germany's surreally smooth roads) through sport, which tightens throttle, steering and damping to +R for the race track, where things sharpen to a scimitar-like level.

All those body add-ons – enough to raise a smile and thumb's up from a German

van driver alongside in a traffic jam (yes, in Germany!) also make the Type R the only one of its breed to actually force the car down on the road at speed.

Away from the track the Type R ought to prove a mostly undemanding companion when you simply want to get somewhere briskly, although the eyeball attracting triple exhaust pipe, especially developed to dampen droning in the cockpit is only a partial

success. Ditto the revised rear suspension, which sets out to stop a mild uneasiness from the rear under heavy braking but still lets you know the back wheels are working hard as you slow hard.

Minor details, these, in a car that shows Honda – once likened to a Japanese BMW – thanks to its engineering focus – is fighting hard to wrench the German marque's slogan from them.

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Sandero tops list for low costs



The new Dacia Sandero 1.0 SCe Access

has topped cap hpi's list of new cars with the lowest motoring costs in the UK.

The latest analysis from the automotive data experts looked at the total cost of ownership (TCO) to reveal the cars with the lowest cost over the first three years of ownership, including purchase, servicing, fuel and other motoring costs.

The new Dacia Sandero 1.0 SCe Access came out first on the list, as well as topping the small car category at £7,419.64 for the first three years, or £206.10 per month. This was closely followed by the mid-range New Dacia Sandero 1.5 dCi Ambiance at £8,059 or £223.87 per month.

Other cars in the increasingly popular

Dacia range also feature on the list.

Coming second in the SUV category is the new Dacia Duster 1.6 Access SCe 115

4x2 with a total cost of ownership over the

first three years of £10,405.31 or £289.04 per month.

Commenting on the results, Louise O'Sullivan, Head of Dacia UK, said:

"It's great to see that our range of no-nonsense cars are proving to be fantastic value for drivers in the UK, not just in the initial purchase but offering low-cost motoring every day for our customers."

"By keeping things simple and offering customers only what they need, we're able to provide the most affordable hatchback and one of the most affordable SUVs available to buy in the UK, combined with proven reliability and an award-winning track record."

Since launching in 2013, Dacia has won numerous motoring accolades and recently sold 100,000 vehicles in the UK, establishing a reputation for incredible value for money and robust reliability.



The car's new design quickly grows on potential buyers

No frills make for a good ride in the new Suzuki Swift

By James Parker

When the first images of the new Swift were released, they weren't exactly met with a warm reception. To many, the character of the earlier models had been lost, leaving a rather sober-looking and soulless hatchback in their place.

The good news is that in the metal, the Swift is a car that quickly grows on you. The more time you spend with it, the more you come to like its new aesthetic. While it might not be sort of car that tugs on your heartstrings and inspires an overwhelming sense of desire when you first cast your eyes upon it, it's still an attractive little car.

If you were to sum the feel of the Swift's cabin up in one word, it would have to be 'unpretentious'. It's not the sort of car that's gunning for the position of best in class as far as its interior is concerned, which means you can forgive the abundance of scratchy plastics that are used throughout.

The Swift won't be the subject of many complaints as far as interior space is concerned – particularly in the front. Headroom is plentiful, and while the Suzuki is a fairly compact little car, it certainly doesn't feel cramped.

Family buyers will be pleased to hear that a similar theme continues in the back seats, too. Although the new Swift might be 10mm shorter than its predecessor,



The Swift isn't big – but you'll still have room for weekend bags

headroom has not been compromised in the rear, and adults will be able to sit in comfort even if they find themselves behind a taller front passenger.

At 254 litres, boot space is hardly class leading, but it will easily swallow a couple of weekend bags and still leave a fair amount of space to spare.

Suzuki offers the Swift with a choice of two different petrol engines. The first is the 1.0-litre, three-cylinder Boosterjet unit that has appeared in the likes of the Baleno and S-Cross and was fitted to our test car. In standard guise, it produces 110bhp and 170Nm of torque, and is capable of shifting the Suzuki from 0-60mph in a not-so-swift 10.4 seconds when paired with a manual transmission.

Our test car featured Suzuki's 'mild hybrid' system, known as SHVS. This offers a slight – although barely noticeable – boost in performance over the regular engine, while fuel economy improves from 61.4mpg to 65.7mpg. CO₂ emissions stand at 97g/km with SHVS, compared with the standard engine's 104g/km.

While the Boosterjet is certainly a competent little motor, and does a good job of getting the Swift up to speed in a respectable fashion, under hard acceleration it does sound strained.

A larger 1.2-litre four-cylinder engine is also available with the Swift. It produces 89bhp and 120Nm of torque for a 0-60mph time of 11.7 seconds. This engine is also available with the SHVS system, which allows for CO₂ emissions of 101g/km, while fuel economy stands at 62.8mpg on the combined cycle.

While the Swift is by no means a hugely powerful car, thanks to its small size and the fact that it weighs just 840kg, on a windy road it feels like a little go-kart. The steering is light and allows you to point the Swift where you want with ease, while the notchy five-speed manual has a purposeful feel to it.

There is a fair amount of body roll through the corners, but as far as grip is concerned, the Swift feels planted. Rough surfaces can cause it to bounce around a bit, however, so it will be interesting to see how it copes on British tarmac.

The Swift was well-mannered on the motorway and didn't feel unstable at cruising speeds. While there was a fair amount of wind noise, it isn't enough to make a long journey exhausting.

In town, its small proportions made navigating tight, busy streets much easier.

Suzuki can consider the new Swift a job well done. It's certainly not the most exciting car on the market, or the most luxurious, but there was something rather charming about its unpretentious, no-nonsense manner.

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Model shown: S-Cross 1.4 Boosterjet SZ5 ALLGRIP petrol manual at £21,749 on the road (metallic paint available at £500); this price includes £2000 customer saving. S-Cross range official fuel consumption figures in mpg (L/100km): Urban from 42.1 (6.7) to 61.4 (4.6). Extra Urban from 54.3 (5.2) to 74.3 (3.8). Combined from 49.5 (5.7) to 68.8 (4.1). Official CO₂ emissions from 128g/km to 106g/km.

Model shown: Baleno 1.2 Dualjet SZ3 petrol manual at £9,999 on the road (metallic paint available at £495); this price includes £2,000 customer saving. Baleno range official fuel consumption figures in mpg (L/100km): Urban from 46.3 (6.1) to 60.1 (4.7), extra urban from 72.4 (3.9) to 78.4 (3.6), combined from 60.1 (4.7) to 70.6 (4.0). Official CO₂ emissions from 109g/km to 93g/km.

Fuel consumption figures are based on an EU test for comparative purposes only and may not reflect real driving results. *Based on S-Cross 1.0 Boosterjet SZ4 petrol manual OTR (excluding metallic paint but including £2,000 customer saving), £1,250 customer saving available on DDIS models only. £1,000 customer saving available on petrol models. Additional £1,000 customer saving across the range for current Suzuki customers. Offer applies to UK, Channel Island and Isle of Man private retail customers purchasing and registering a new S-Cross 2017 facelift model from participating dealers between 1st July and 30th September 2017. Offer cannot be used in conjunction with any other offer unless otherwise stated. Offer may be withdrawn at any time. Terms and conditions apply, see cars.suzuki.co.uk. Offer correct at the time of going to print.

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Church, alternatively may be
handed to the Family.

OVERTON**Agnes**

Passed away peacefully on
Wednesday, June 28, 2017,
aged 95 years.

Agnes was a much loved lady
who will be missed dearly by
all of her Family and many
Friends.

The Funeral Service will be
held at St. Saviours Church,
Hatherton, on Friday, July 14,
2017 at 20pm, followed by a
Committal Service at Stafford
Crematorium.

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SHAW**Norma**

Of Cannock.

Passed away peacefully in
hospital on June 27, 2017,
aged 91 years.

The devoted Wife of Alan
and beloved Mom of Tricia,
Rosemary and Richard, also
a loving Nana, Great-Nana,
Sister, Aunty, Mother-in-law
and Friend.

Service will be held at
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Reunited with Husband Roy
and Daughter Janice.

Loved and missed by all of her

Family and Friends.

The Funeral Service will take
place on Thursday, July 6 at
11.30am at Lichfield and
District Crematorium.

Family flowers only please,
donations to Midland Air
Ambulance.**SAUNDERS****Joan**

Passed away peacefully at
Manor House Nursing Home,
Stafford with her Children at
her side on June 25, 2017,
aged 83 years.

Funeral Service will take
place at St Peter's Church,
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14, 2017, at 1pm, followed by
Interment in the Churchyard.

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SAUNDERS**Joan**

Mom and Nan

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cure was not to be, He
wrapped her in His loving
arms and whispered come to
me.

She suffered much in silence,
her spirit did not bend, she
faced her pain with courage
until the very end.

She tried so hard to stay with us
but her fight was not in vain, God took her to His
loving home and freed her
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their sympathy cards and
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God bless you all.

WILLIAMS**Meirion Wynne**

Mary, Amanda and Family
would like to thank Family,
Friends and Neighbours for
all their love and support
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with special thanks to Mark
and Jayne.

Special thanks also to Rev.
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3. Ensure that you are given any KC documentation, if pedigree. Whilst Midland News Association publications take great care to avoid publication of advertisements from Puppy Farmers we cannot accept any liability should readers purchase from this kind of establishment.

5

Business & Farming

business opportunities

READERS are recommended to take appropriate professional advice before entering into any obligations.

6

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We are based in Cannock, but our work takes us all over the Country, we start in the Yard 7am Monday to Friday. Immediate start.

Full driving licence required. Please apply by emailing your details and CV to steve.hopkins2@btconnect.com

full time - general

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InDesign skills are preferable but not essential as training will be given.

To apply send a CV and covering letter to Martin Wright/Caroline Jones to editorial.support@shropshirestar.co.uk Postal applications to: Martin Wright, Editor, Shropshire Star, Ketley, Telford TF1 5HU. Closing Date: July 14.

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commercial vehicles

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7 Jobs

drivers

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We are based in Cannock, but our work takes us all over the Country, we start in the Yard 7am Monday to Friday. Immediate start.

Full driving licence required. Please apply by emailing your details and CV to steve.hopkins2@btconnect.com

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62 Classified Ads

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9 Local Information

public & legal notices

BETTY MAY HANCOX
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Pursuant to the Trustee Act 1925 any persons having a claim against or an interest in the Estate of the aforementioned deceased, late of 38 Melchett Lane Cannock Staffordshire WS11 6XE, who died on 07/06/2017, are required to send particulars thereof in writing to the undersigned. Solicitors or before 08/09/2017, after which date the Estate will be distributed having regard only to claims and interests of which they have had notice.

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T505374

ERIC NORMAN JONES
(Deceased)

Pursuant to the Trustee Act 1925 any persons having a claim against or an interest in the Estate of the aforementioned deceased, late of 43 The Lanes Great Wyrmston Staffordshire WS5 6AT, who died on 15/06/2017, are required to send particulars thereof in writing to the undersigned. Solicitors or before 15/09/2017, after which date the Estate will be distributed having regard only to claims and interests of which they have had notice.

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Walsall WS1 1XS

T505457

GOODS VEHICLE OPERATOR'S LICENCE

CHASE Removals 2008 Ltd of Unit 2, Chaseside Drive, Cannock, Staffs WS11 7EY is applying to change an existing licence as follows:

To add an operating centre to keep ONE goods vehicles and NIL trailers at Unit 2, Chaseside Drive, Cannock, Staffs WS11 7EY.

Owners or occupiers of land (including buildings) near the operating centre(s) who believe that their use or enjoyment of that land would be affected, should make written representations to the Traffic Commissioner at Hillcrest House, 386 Harehills Lane, Leeds LS9 6NF stating

their reasons, within 21 days of this notice. Representatives must at the same time send a copy of their representations to the applicant at the address given at the top of this notice. A Guide to Making Representations is available from the Traffic Commissioner's Office.

Dated: July 6th, 2017

STAFFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 (AS AMENDED)
ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991
DIVERSION OF VEHICULAR TRAFFIC
GAILEY LEA LANE, GAILEY

NOTICE is hereby given that the Staffordshire County Council on 4th July 2017 made an Order the effect of which will be to prohibit any vehicle from proceeding in that length of Gailey Lea Lane in Gailey from a point approximately 1,920 metres in a generally north-westerly direction from its junction with A5 Watling street, for a distance of approximately 76 metres in a generally south-westerly direction unless the vehicle is being used in connection with the works or is being used for police, fire brigade or ambulance purposes. Pedestrian access will be maintained. For more information visit: <https://roadworks.org/tm=159701>

The order will come into operation on 13th July 2017 and the said works will commence on or as near as practicable to that date, taking place between the hours of 09.30 and 15.30. It is anticipated that the works will be completed on the same day.

The Order will remain in force for a period of 18 months, or until the telecommunications pole maintenance works, which it is proposed to carry out on or near the road have been completed, whichever is the earlier.

John Tradewell, Director for Strategy, Governance & Change, No. 2 Staffordshire Place, Tipping Street, Stafford ST16 2DH
Ref: 33072, Enquiries: Customer Contact Centre Tel: 0300 111 8000 [www.staffordshire.gov.uk/trafficregulationorders](http://roadworks.org)

Date: 6th July 2017

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984
(AS AMENDED)

ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991
PUBLIC FOOTPATH NO. 50 (A) CANNOCK TOWN PARISH

TEMPORARY CLOSURE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Staffordshire County Council intend, not less than seven days from the date of this Notice, to make an Order the effect of which is to prohibit any pedestrian from proceeding along that length of Public Footpath No. 50 (A) Cannock Town Council, starting from a point approximately 47 metres south west of the junction of Pebble Mill Drive and Ridings Brook Drive, for a distance of approximately 68 metres in a south easterly direction. The closure is required due to works in connection with the railway lines including installation of overhead power line equipment and renewal and replacement of the track.

A temporary diversion will be in place during the period of the closure as shown on the plan. A plan will be displayed showing the lengths of public footpaths to be closed and unaffected rights of way in the area.

This Order will come into operation on 21 July 2017 and will remain in force for a period of six months or until the railway line works are complete, whichever is the earlier. If necessary, after six months, the Order may be extended for a further period with the approval of the Secretary of State.

John Tradewell, Director Strategy, Governance and Change
Staffordshire Place 2, Tipping Street, Stafford ST16 2DH
Enquiries: Network Rail National Helpline 03457 11 41 41

Date: 06 July 2017

GARTH CYRIL BIRKS
(Deceased)

Pursuant to the Trustee Act 1925 any persons having a claim against or an interest in the Estate of the aforementioned deceased, late of 7 Old Fallop Avenue Cannock Staffordshire WS11 5QN, who died on 25/03/2017, are required to send particulars thereof in writing to the undersigned or before 15/09/2017, after which date the Estate will be distributed having regard only to claims and interests of which they have had notice.

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(Ref: ELL/4036929/Birks)

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10 Personals

personal

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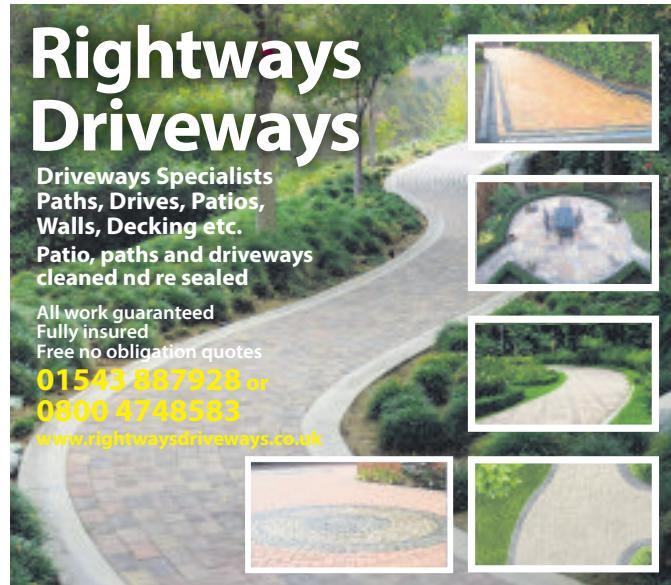
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Glad it's over as £1m Wolves misfit departs

MISFIT Paul Gladon says he's pleased to have returned to former club Heracles after his difficult year at Wolves. The £1m signing made just three scoreless appearances in gold and black and last played for the first team in September.

Ex-boss Paul Lambert said Gladon wasn't 'up to speed' for the Championship and the Dutchman didn't feature in a first-team squad under the Scot. The former Sparta Rotterdam striker, aged 25, rejoined Eredivisie side Heracles on a season-long loan deal. He scored six goals in 27 appearances during his previous season with the club in 2015/16.

Gladon, who had signed a three-year contract with Wolves last summer, struggled to adapt in England country on his own - but said joining Wolves was still an opportunity he couldn't turn down.

"I had some minutes at the beginning of the season, then I had to only train," Gladon told Heracles' official website. If you do not play games and only allowed to train, it is not good to very often be 'home alone'.



Aaron Rai in action earlier this year



Playing at 3 Hammers, aged four, watched by Gary Gilligan

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Grassroots heroes are commended at awards

STAFFORDSHIRE FA's grassroots heroes were honoured at the Community Awards at Stoke's Bet365 stadium. A total of 15 awards were given to honour the achievements of clubs, representatives and leagues over the past 12 months.

Wrylley Juniors won the FA Charter Standard Community Club Award, while the Walsall Junior Youth League won the FA Charter Standard League Award, with the Staffordshire County Senior League applauded.

The Coach of the Year gong went to Bilbrook Juniors' Mark Smith Park, with Paige Snape of Chasetown FC awarded the Young Volunteer of the Year prize. The Staffordshire Ladies Over 30s League was also winners, as the Best Inclusive Project.

Bilston Town CFC's Denise Frankham was highly commended for the People's Choice Award for Outstanding Contribution to Community Football, and Chris Burton, from Hawkins Sports FC, was recognised for the FA Groundsman of the Year at Step 7 or Below.

Girls vie to get hands on tournament trophy

THE Midlands is leading the way in handball participation for girls, with more than 700 13-to-15-year-olds taking up the sport in the last year.

And next Tuesday, 100 girls from across the Midlands will compete in the first Cameron Homes Girls Handball Tournament at Aldersley Stadium, Wolverhampton. It will see teams from South Derbyshire, Shropshire, Sutton Coldfield and Cannock Chase compete in two age groups - under-13 and under-15 - attempting to win the first of the annual events.

Handball coach and tournament organiser Nenad Popovic said: "We're building a strong foundation in the Midlands by encouraging young girls to become more active and get involved with handball. The Cameron Homes tournament is fantastic opportunity for girls to get a taste for competitive handball and see why so many people have fallen in love with the sport."

Girls Handball has seen a huge increase in participation over the past 12 months, with teams in Sutton Coldfield, Telford and Burntwood all forming junior teams. Cannock are the current under-18 national champions.

From putting in the back garden to a Major player

SPORTING FEATURE

By Joe Edwards

"He's just like anyone from the public, no big ego thinking he is the best player in the world or anything like that."

a very good test but it's also fair at the same time. If you play well, get the ball in position and hit some good approach shots the greens are perfect so you can give yourself some chances. But if you're a little bit out of all of those you could run up some numbers on any hole. It was tough but very fair."

But Rai, who was watched by proud parents Amrit Singh and Dalvir Shukla, insisted it had been an 'amazing experience'.

The Patshull Park member enjoyed a great start to his Major championship debut in the first round. The 22-year-old was in the third group out and birdied the par-five first to claim an early share of the lead.

He ended day one with a one-over-par 73 but a round of 80 on day two meant he missed the cut.

But the former Perton Primary School and Wolverhampton Grammar School boy, who has recorded two victories on the Challenge Tour this season, insisted he had enjoyed his experience.

Automatic

"It was great," he said. "It was an amazing experience although I wasn't aware of sharing the lead after one hole - maybe 71 holes early!"

Rai booked his place at Erin Hills by winning the 36-hole international qualifying event at Walton Heath and another win on the Challenge Tour would secure automatic promotion to the European Tour.

"It's been a fantastic season so far, I couldn't have asked for anything more," added Rai.

"It's amazing to get a taste of it and it would be fantastic to have more opportunities in the future," he said.

At 7,845 yards, Erin Hills was the longest course in Major championship history, but Rai was not one of the players to complain about the deep rough lining the fairways.

"I thought it was a great course," he added. "It's

a very good test but it's also fair at the same time. If you play well, get the ball in position and hit some good approach shots the greens are perfect so you can give yourself some chances. But if you're a little bit out of all of those you could run up some numbers on any hole. It was tough but very fair."

Major competition capped an incredible rise for the young professional is currently in just his second year on the European Challenge Tour - the second tier of professional golf.

Rai made a stunning breakthrough winning the Kenya Open, in March, just weeks after his 22nd birthday. "Kenya was very special to win," he said. "My mum was there and she was born in Kenya. It was a very special week."

From that success, a number of consistent performances have seen him shoot up the Challenge Tour order of merit as well as the world rankings.

Another victory followed in Andalucia, Spain, putting him within one more Challenge Tour victory of securing a pass through to the full European Tour.

"If you win three times in a year on the Challenge Tour you are through to the European Tour for the rest of this year and next year too," he said. "I've had a pretty steady and consistent level of performance this year."

"The top 15 players get on to the European Tour by right but I've only made a good start so far. There's still a long, long way to go."

Rai has progress from his back garden putting green at his home in Perton where his family still lives - through coaching sessions at the 3 Hammers

complex in Coven and on to the fairways at Patshull Park as one of its youngest members.

The putting green at home is still there but he believed his own hard work was paying dividends.

"Certainly with any sport you have to work hard to achieve your ambitions," he said. "It's a whole lifestyle that you have to adopt."

That has been in evidence since he was swinging a club as a four-year-old with his dad, and remembered by those who helped develop Rai's burgeoning golfing talent of prodigious proportions.

Richard Bissell, Patshull Park's resident professional, remembers Aaron's work ethic well and is thrilled to see him find a place at golf's top table.

"It is fantastic. I keep in touch with him on social media and I see him down the club quite often," he said.

Progress

"When he's not playing, he is usually down here, in the gym. It is testament to the hard work and his level-headedness over the years - he has never got too big for his boots."

And Bissell added: "He's just like anyone from the public, no big ego thinking he is the best player in the world or anything like that. I have known him since he was five. I remember us welcoming him here, and we have seen him progress."

"I said to quite a few people to watch out for him around six months ago, and he has proved me right."

And Ian Bonser, the owner of the 3 Hammers complex, also recalls a young boy driven to succeed, turning into a man with immense dedication to his craft.

"Aaron has been a regular visitor here since he was about four," he recalled.

"I've got a newspaper cutting from when he was a boy and it says he was born at 3.33am on the third of the third - and got his first hole-in-one on the par three course here."

And Bonser added: "Aaron is still a regular visitor here and he is still the same lad who came in back in about 1999. The one thing I would say about him is he is the hardest working, most dedicated person I've seen. Nobody deserves to do well more."

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Sport

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From garden swing to a Major player on circuit

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Hawks fly up to third after crushing win

CANNOCK & Rugeley Hawks moved into third place in the Birmingham League second division after crushing Harborne by 146 runs at Rawnsley.

The mid-Staffordshire side smashed 338-8 in 50 overs with 85 from Omar Ali, 75 from Mubeen Rashid and 60 from Kabir Ali, who also picked up 5-50. James Hunt was Harborne's best batsman, racing to 75 from 87 balls.

After a difficult start to the season, Halesowen have moved up into fourth place following a crushing nine-wicket win against Penkridge, who drop into the bottom two.

Rana Hassan hit 46 as Penkridge struggled to 147 all out with three wickets each to Eddie Rhodes (3-26) and Richard Brooker (3-33). After the early loss of Ed Kilbey to Rizwan Gulzar, Halesowen strode to victory without further loss thanks to an unbroken partnership between Hassan Qaumi (91no) and Mohammed Shauib (54no). Rizwan Gulzar was the sole Penkridge wicket taker.

An astonishing bowling performance from Adam Peat (6-3) off seven overs, strengthened Lichfield's position at the top of the Division Three table as Newport were blown away for 28.

Milford Hall's six-wicket win at Worcester Nomads lifts them out of the bottom four, with Ejaz Nawaz (5-36) and Zaheer Suliman (99no) starring.

Streetly smashed 304-8 in their victory over Stratford-upon-Avon with 100 from Imran Qadir and 46 from Sean Dunne. Sagar Mangalorkar (5-41) and Steve Hinton (5-45) saw Stratford off for 125.

Jennings' team up to give cricket rivals YPF a Hammering

IT was a day for the Jennings' as Hammarwich beat Walsall YPF by 162 runs in the Staffs Clubs League Premier Division.

Opener Craig hit 131 in his side's 299-9, Josh Allen chipping in with 50. Walsall were all out for 137 in reply with John Jennings taking 4-15.

Rugeley slumped to a 70-run defeat at the hands of Wednesbury, who themselves were restricted to 175 thanks to 4-34 from Muhammad Sultan. Arend de Waal Gagiano claimed 5-16 in reply, in 6.4 overs, as Rugeley were all out for 105.

In division three, Milford Hall's third XI made light work of Burntwood St Matthew's firsts, chasing down their 107 target for the loss of three wickets in just 18.5 overs.

Ryan Elstone enjoyed a good day for Armitage, but in vain as his side went down by 159 runs. Elstone took 5-47 as Springfield totalled 332-9. Thanushan Sri Rajendarajah with 148 and Jabbar Hussain 59.

Elstone then hit 45 with the bat, but Armitage fell short by 159 runs, all out for 173.

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Fans positive after Meet the Boss night



Boss Neil tooth, second right, with his team

NEW boss Neil Tooth and his backroom team were given a warm welcome by larger-than-expected group of about 70 Hedsorf Town supporters at Keys Park at a Meet the Manager night last week.

Tooth was given centre stage along with assistant manager Phil Male, coach Any Ling and new physio Eve Littler.

Though the new management team are made up of ex-defenders, Tooth promised an attacking style of football for the new campaign. This will be

the Pitmen boss's 14th year in non-league and his ambition is to be up there with league contenders and the play-off places.

"Honesty" was Tooth's key word. He hopes his passion for winning will be transferred to the team, as he pledged every player, in his squad of about 20, would give 110 per cent in every game, to honour the club badge and to respect the fans.

His affability, during an hour-long question and answer session won over the fans as the meeting ended with everyone in positive spirits.

131 stand is the highlight of run chase

Cannock (223-4) beat Whittington (222-8) by six wickets

CAPTAIN Will Fleet asked Whittington to bat first and a steady stream of wickets halted their progress as they posted 222-8 on a good batting track with short boundaries. Phil Heighway took 3-36 from his 10 overs.

The highlight of the run chase was a second wicket partnership of 131 between Zak Shingler (73) and Matt Cottrell (77).

Cannock 2nds (152-5) beat Rushall 1st XI (150) by five wickets

RUSHALL were asked to bat first at Chase Park and were bowled out in the final over of their innings for 150, captain John Cooke returned 3-18.

The home side's reply got off to a poor start with the loss of four early wickets before Ryan Peach and Dan Wood sensibly rebuilt the innings. Peach made 31, Wood was 60 not out at the end, with Jamie Hill unbeaten on 29.

Cannock 3rd XI (74 a/o) lost to Coseley 2nds (77-3) by seven wickets

IT was a disappointing day for Cannock as they were skittled for 74 after being asked to bat. Cameron Osborne, aged 14, top scored with 22. Coseley wrapped up the win in a little more than 25 overs.

Cannock 4ths (67-2) beat Penkridge 4th XI (64 a/o) by eight wickets

AFTER winning the toss and deciding to field, captain Aaron Saunders took a career best 8-40 to skittle out Penkridge for 64. Phil Micklewright made 21 not out as Cannock reached their target.

Bramall hopes to realise FIFA dream

FORMER Hedsorf Town player Cohen Bramall hopes to be immortalised in a video game as he continues to realise his dreams at the Emirates Stadium.

The full-back made a fairytale move from the seventh tier to the FA Cup winners in January.

And after appearing for the under-23s and training with the likes of Alexis Sanchez and Mesut Ozil in the first team, Bramall is now desperate to be a part of the FIFA series, which releases its latest game through EA Sports later this year.

"It means a lot, it would be amazing to be on it," said the 21-year-old.



Burntwood rider Lloyd Shelley proved too hot to handle. Picture: Tony Else

Tennis treat served up for families

A GREAT British Tennis Weekend is being served up to introduce new people to the game.

Cheslyn Hay Tennis Club is organising the event next Saturday, July 15.

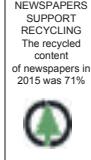
The Open Day runs from 9.30am-2pm with families and individuals having the opportunity to play tennis in an informal, coach-led sessions at

prize giveaways the following Saturday, July 22.

Coach Chris Perrin who is organising the Family Tennis Festival said: "We are really excited to be running a Open Day at Cheslyn Hay inviting families and young people to play."

Register at cheslynhaytennis.com, email cheslynhaytennis@live.com or call 07969 829318.

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